

## Experiencing the Gospel of Mark



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- Web site:  
[www.gettysburgseminary.org/mhoffman/markexp](http://www.gettysburgseminary.org/mhoffman/markexp)
- Setting up your system

## Experiencing the Gospel of Mark

- Syllabus
  - Required Reading:
    - NET Bible
    - *Mark as Story*
    - *M&M*
    - plus one other and a commentary
  - Assignments
    - Reading the Gospel
    - Reflection on reading (1-2 pages)
    - 'Other' book report: in-class and for Amazon
    - Pericope 'performance'
    - Pericope paper (5-7 pages)

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- Schedule: Check web page
- FishersNet Forum
- Blog: [mgvh1.edublogs.org/](http://mgvh1.edublogs.org/)

## Experiencing the Gospel of Mark

- GOALS
  - Overview of Mark
  - Standard exegetical work is (only) background
  - Becoming aware of other approaches
  - Reading, hearing, performing

*An ambitious and glorious failure is better  
than a tepid success.*

## The Gospel of Mark

... "does not claim to be history. It is not even referentially oriented. Rather, it is pragmatically or rhetorically oriented. It is not 'about' its characters; it is 'about' its reader. The Gospel writer's chief concern is not the fate of either Jesus or the Twelve in the story but the fate of the reader outside the story."

Robert M. Fowler, *Let the Reader Understand*, page 50

### Mark 1.1

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Ἀρχὴ  
τοῦ εὐαγγελίου  
Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ  
[υἱοῦ θεοῦ].

### Mark 1.1-3

- What things do these verses presume about its reader? How much does the reader know?
- For whom was this Gospel written and why?
- How does the 'performance' of it affect our perception?

### Mark 1.1-3

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
"See, I am sending my messenger  
ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;  
<sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying out in the  
wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,"

Is this author  
trustworthy?

