



## Mark – Dig Deeper Summer Study

A co-ed fellowship group focused on digging in and discussing deeper the passages that we're teaching through Mark.

Meeting Dates/Times – Every other Tuesday, 6-8pm

- June 7
- June 21
- July 5
- July 19

The mission of La Mirada Church is to Know the Word, Love like Jesus, and transform our communities. So, our goal through this 4 session study is to...

1. Knowing the Word making connections to synoptic gospels (if applicable) and the epistles
2. Loving like Jesus – seeing how Jesus loved with His teaching, compassion, healing, and calling into account
3. Transforming our Community – how that passage impacts our life: inner thought life, relationships, and reaching others in Jesus' name

Each Session we will have...

- Fellowship
- Read the Word - Mark 3:20-35 and Mark 4:1-20
- Grace Group Discussion
  - Guidelines –
    - God's Word is our standard. We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything.
    - Charity. We come from varying religious & political backgrounds. Remember: 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity.'
    - Grace. We're all learning. Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.
    - Grow & Share. We all benefit from one another's thoughts and questions. I bet you have something great to share!
- Teaching/Reflection – Q & R (AKA: "Stump the Pastor!")
- Prayer

Grace Group discussion questions are on the back...



## Grace Group Discussion Questions

1. Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ - Answer one of these:  
Something fun I've done this year is...  
If I could travel anywhere, I'd go to...  
I bet that you didn't know that I...  
I started attending La Mirada Church because...
2. What miracles of Jesus has Mark recorded in chapters 1-3? Use your Bibles to refresh your memory – Mark 1:23-27; 1:29-34; 1:40-45; 2:1-12; 3:1-6. How do the different groups respond? Disciples? Crowd? Demons? Religious leaders? How do you account for the difference in their responses?
3. How does Jesus refer to His true family? (3:31-35) How do you think this encounter impacted Jesus' mother and his brothers? Why do you think Jesus doesn't mention "father" in the list of family members? What is Jesus teaching us about the nature of family?
4. In what way did the blasphemy that was spoken against Jesus impact His family? Do you think blasphemy in our world today affects the Church? You personally? Why or why not?
5. In Mark 4:1-20, Jesus teaches not just *a parable* but also says to His disciples, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable?" What does this tell you about the significance of *this* particular parable? Why do you think Jesus considers it so important?
6. What do each of these represent in this parable: The Sower. The Seed. The Soils.
7. Describe the fate of the seed that lands on the path? Rocky soil? What kind of person is typical of a "path" or "rocky soil?" Has that ever been you?
8. Give examples in life of the three "thorns" Jesus names in Mark 4:19. If someone eliminated those three from their life, do you think that would be adequate to get the "good soil" result? Why or why not?
9. What happens to the seed that lands on "good soil?" How does soil become "good" in the first place? Is that something you can make happen by yourself? Why or why not?
10. If you had been with Jesus and the disciples while He was teaching in these accounts, what would you have wanted Jesus to explain more about?
11. Thinking back to the sermon through this passage, what point helped you understand better? Got you thinking differently? Left you with another question?