

Introduction To The Gospel of Mark:

Mark is the shortest of all the Gospels, containing 16 chapters. It is believed to have been written somewhere between A.D. 55-59, during the early part of the Emperor Nero's reign (A.D. 54-68). Around 92 percent of material contained in Mark is also found in Matthew and about 48 percent is included in Luke. Unlike Matthew and Luke, Mark does not record any resurrection appearances of Jesus. Mark presents Christ as the Messiah, because He is the Son of God, and presents His death as the suffering Son of Man as God's plan of salvation for the world. Mark's Gospel shows how Jesus cared for His disciples and taught them how to care and minister to others, leading them to faith in Christ. The major source of the material in this Gospel was obtained from the preaching and instruction of the Apostle Peter. Mark also had contact with Barnabas and the Apostle Paul (Acts 13:5,12; 15:39.) Many scholars believe that Mark was the first Gospel written and that Matthew and Luke used it as a source document for their writing.

Printed Text: Mark 14: 66 - 72

Background Text: Matthew 26: 69-75; Luke 12: 9

Devotional Reading: Deuteronomy 17:6; Leviticus 24: 10-14; Numbers 15: 30, 31

The Denial of Peter:

Mark 14: 66-72

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. What can we learn from Peter's denial?
2. Why do you think that Peter denied Christ even though he was committed to Him? Can we find ourselves in the same predicament?
3. Why does it mean to deny?
4. If a true believer denies Christ has he/she lost their salvation? Explain.

Next Week: Mark 15: 1-20