

## Mark's gospel No. 2

Mark presents Jesus as the Servant – “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.” Mark 10.45.

Emphasis is therefore on our Lord's deeds rather than his words. So this Gospel is crowded with incidents where the key word throughout is “immediately.” In fact, that word is used forty times in Mark's sixteen chapters.

In keeping with this view of him as Servant, there is no genealogy and no mention of his birth and infancy.

Mark's Gospel describes a busy, non-stop ministry. Here is a brief overview –

**First**, his was a tender and loving ministry, the outcome of compassion. Mark 1.29-34.

**Second**, though he is a servant, he has great authority. See his power in teaching and over demons, Mark 1.21-28; as well as power over the elements. Mark 4.35-41.

**Third**, his was a self-denying service (Mark 6.31), but also with power to miraculously provide for others (Mark 6.30-44).

**Fourth**, he continued in his service, though despised and misunderstood. Mark 6.1-6.

**Fifth**, his was a costly service, with grief (Mark 3.5), many sighs (Mark 7.34; 8.12), and death (Mark 8.31).

Jesus is indeed the Pattern Servant. Will our service become more and more like his?

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**When Jesus says, “Follow me” (Mark 2.14) he wants servants, not star performers.**

**Ken Packer**