

Understand your Bible

Suggested notes

Mark 4

What we will see in this chapter:

- Different ways we can react to the message of the Kingdom of God
- Several aspects of the Kingdom of God
- A lesson from Jesus about our faith

1 Read the chapter

2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 9	1. In Jesus' parable what different things happened to the seed?	Seeds fell: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ by the road ➤ on the rocky ground ➤ amongst the thorns ➤ into the good ground
10 to 20	2. What do the seed and different types of earth represent?	The seed is God's word. The road represents those who oppose the word. The rocky places represent those who are shallow minded. The thorny ground represents those totally occupied by the cares of this age, and the deceitfulness of riches. The good ground represents those who hear the word, and accept it.
21 to 34	3. What do these parables tell us about God's Kingdom?	The Kingdom of God: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ has a message which cannot be hidden and should be listened to ➤ develops in a way we do not fully understand ➤ is like a small seed that develops into something as big as a tree
35 to 39	4. How did Jesus show the power of God in this storm?	He stopped the wind and calmed the sea.
40 & 41	5. What did Jesus ask the disciples about their reaction to the storm?	He asked why they were afraid and didn't have faith.

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3 Related theme: *More aspects of the Kingdom of God.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the New Testament. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Bible verse(s)	Main point(s)
Matthew 13 v 44	God's coming Kingdom is of more value than anything else.
Matthew 13 v 47 to 49	Not all who hear the message of the Kingdom of God will have a place in it.
Matthew 21 v 28 to 31	Only those who respect God and do what he says will be in the Kingdom of God.
Mark 10 v 15	We must show trust in God's message about the coming Kingdom.
Mark 10 v 24	It is difficult for those who trust in riches to be part of the Kingdom of God.
Luke 10 v 10 and 11	Those who reject Jesus' message have had the Kingdom near to them.
Acts 1 v 3	After his resurrection, Jesus continues to talk about the coming Kingdom to his disciples.
Acts 28 v 23	The apostle Paul uses the Old Testament to tell his hearers about the Kingdom of God.