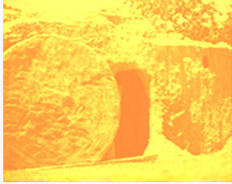


4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large.



the gospel of

MARK

1:1

THE SON OF GOD

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.



And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 9 And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away.



45 Immediately he made his disciples get 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. 47 And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night[g] he came to them, walking on the sea.

8:29

YOU ARE
THE CHRIST

And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."

And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"



15:39



TRULY, THIS
MAN WAS
THE SON OF
GOD

The Idolatry of Power and the Power of the Cross. Mark 9:30-50.



Mark 8:24-26. “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Big Idea: True power is found in the cross and resurrection which empower me to serve.



I. The Power of the Cross.

How?

-The Cross: Self sacrificing love.



I. The Power of the Cross.

How?

- The Cross: Self sacrificing love.**
- The Resurrection: empowers self sacrificing love.**



I. The Power of the Cross.

How?

- The Cross: Self sacrificing love.**
- The Resurrection: empowers self sacrificing love.**
- The power of love.**



I. The Power of the Cross.

How?

- The Cross: Self sacrificing love.**
- The Resurrection: empowers self sacrificing love.**
 - The power of love.**
 - The power of freedom.**

I. The Idolatry of Power.

II. The Power of the
Cross.



I. The Idolatry of Power.

**We were made to be
dependent upon the power
of God.**



I. The Idolatry of Power.

But...

- We seize power for ourselves.



I. The Idolatry of Power.

But...

- We seize power for ourselves.**
- We live under the delusion that we have power.**



I. The Idolatry of Power.

But...

- We seize power for ourselves.**
- We live under the delusion that we have power.**
- We live in the fear of losing power.**



I. The Idolatry of Power.

But...

- We seize power for ourselves.**
- We live under the delusion that we have power.**
- We live in the fear of losing power.**
- Now it controls you.**

I. The Power of the Cross.

“Right Handed Power.”

“Left Handed Power.”



I. The Power of the Cross.

“Right Handed Power.”

Force —————> Get what I want

“Left Handed Power.”



I. The Power of the Cross.

“Right Handed Power.”

Force —————> Get what I want

“Left Handed Power.”

Influence —————> Might change a heart.



I. The Idolatry of Power.

Comparison and competition.

Mark 9:34. ...on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.



I. The Idolatry of Power.

Consumerism

Mark 9:36-37. And he took a child and put him in the midst of them ...“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

I. The Idolatry of Power.

Cliquish

Mark 9:38. John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.”

I. The Idolatry of Power.

Callous

Mark 9:42. Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea.

I. The Idolatry of Power.

**The idolatry of power
leads to death.**



I. The Idolatry of Power.

Mark 9:42-49. ...millstone hung around his neck...cut off your hand...cut off your foot...tear out your eye...better than going to hell.

If removing body parts could save you then do it!

I. The Idolatry of Power.

Mark 7:20-22. What comes out of a person is what defiles him... out of the heart of man...

Only heart change can save you.



I. The Idolatry of Power.

**Mark 9:48 'where their worm does not die
and the fire is not quenched.'**

-Isaiah 66:24.

**Without a new heart you will
die eternally.**

the gospel of

MARK

I. The Idolatry of Power.

II. The Power of the
Cross.



Big Idea: True power is found in the cross and resurrection which empower me to serve.



I. The Power of the Cross.

Mark 9:31-32. ...for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” ³² But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

I. The Power of the Cross.

How?

- The Cross: Self sacrificing love.**
- The Resurrection: empowers self sacrificing love.**
 - The power of love.**
 - The power of freedom.**

I. The Power of the Cross.

Philippians 3:10. that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

I. The Power of the Cross.

2 Corinthians 12:9. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

I. The Power of the Cross.

Left Handed Power (Resurrection Power).



I. The Power of the Cross.

Left Handed Power (Resurrection Power).

- Paradoxical: rooted in weakness.



I. The Power of the Cross.

Left Handed Power (Resurrection Power).

- Paradoxical: rooted in weakness.**
- Motivation: love for others, influence through freedom and grace- keeps doors open.**



I. The Power of the Cross.

Left Handed Power (Resurrection Power).

- **Paradoxical: rooted in weakness.**
- **Motivation: love for others, influence through freedom and grace- keeps doors open.**
- **Choice: no guarantees.**



I. The Power of the Cross.

Left Handed Power (Resurrection Power).

- Paradoxical: rooted in weakness.**
- Motivation: love for others, influence through freedom and grace- keeps doors open.**
- Choice: no guarantees.**
- True Power: Only way to overcome evil.**



I. The Power of the Cross.

**Are you fighting for power
and position or are you
fighting for people and
peace?**



I. The Power of the Cross.

Mark 9:35 And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”

**Resurrection power lets me serve,
seeking only honor from Christ.**

I. The Power of the Cross.

Mark 9:36-37. And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

Resurrection power lets me serve everyone and in so doing experience God.



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MARK

I. The Power of the Cross.

Mark 9:41. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

Resurrection power lets me serve in both big and small ways knowing my true reward is never lost.

the gospel of

MARK

I. The Power of the Cross.

Mark 9:49-50. For everyone will be salted with fire.

⁵⁰ Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Resurrection power purifies me to be a living sacrifice.



Big Idea: True power is found in the cross and resurrection which empower me to serve.

