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Christianity
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1 Christianity is Christ

- ▶ If you could ask God one question, and you knew it would be answered, what would it be?

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READ MARK 1:1

- ▶ What does Mark say Christianity is all about in the first sentence of his book?

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- ▶ How is that different from some of the pictures we've drawn?

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- Christianity is not about rules or ceremonies. It's all about Jesus Christ.
- If we're here by chance, we have no real significance or value. But God created us – so we matter enormously.
- We all face death sooner or later. Since we all have to die, what's the point of living?
- The Bible says we don't really start living until we know the one who made us, and live as he made us to live.
- But how can we get to know God? We need him to reveal himself to us. Mark says he's done that for us by sending Jesus Christ. If we want to know what God is like, we must look at Jesus.
- That's why "the gospel about Jesus Christ" is good news.

▶ If you asked a group of people in the street: "What's the point of life?", what kind of answers would you get?



▶ What do most people think about God and Christianity? Why do you think that is?



▶ What about Jesus? Do people think he matters? What do you think?



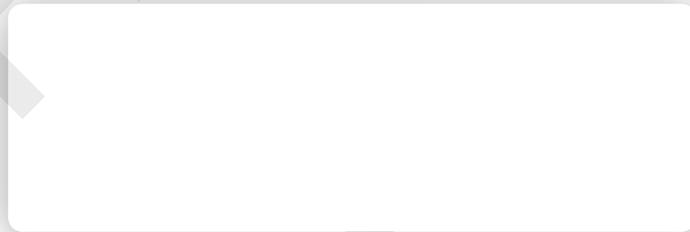
2 Identity

- ▶ Think of your best friend. What do you really like about them?



READ MARK 2:1–12

- ▶ Why is the house full at the start of this passage? (Look at Mark 1:45 for clues.)



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- ▶ Imagine you were in the room. How would you have reacted to Jesus saying: "Son, your sins are forgiven"? (See verse 5.) Why do you think he said it?

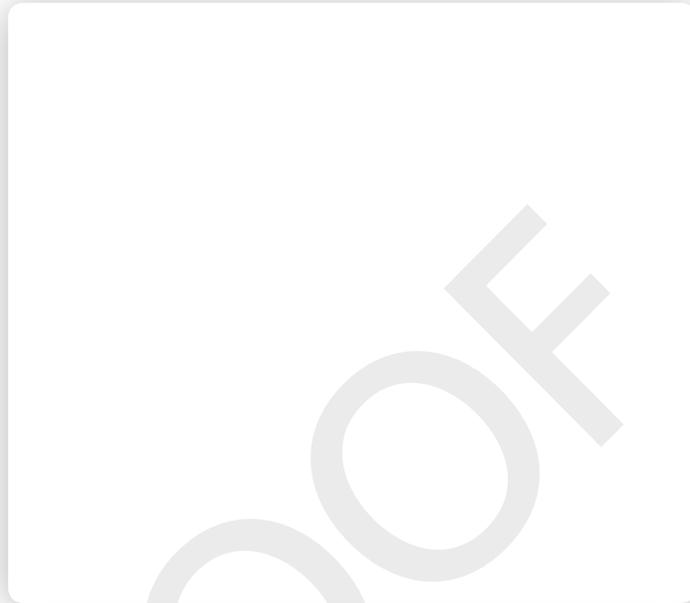


- ▶ Why do the religious leaders react so strongly when Jesus forgives the man's sin? (See verse 7.) Do you think their response is right?



- ▶ Jesus heals the man so that he can walk. What's the real reason Jesus healed him? (Look at verse 10 for a clue.)





- ▣ Mark 1:1 says that Jesus is the “Christ” – which means the chosen one of God, God’s promised King – and “the Son of God”. Mark then shows us that:
 - ▣ Jesus can forgive sins – **Mark 2:1–10**
 - ▣ Jesus has power to heal – **Mark 2:11–12**
 - ▣ Jesus has power over nature – **Mark 4:35–41**
 - ▣ Jesus has power over demons – **Mark 5:1–17**
 - ▣ Jesus has power over death – **Mark 5:35–42**

- ▣ Which of the events Mark tells us about would you have found most amazing or scary? Why?

- ▣ What do you think of Jesus?