



WEEK ONE | THE SHORTEST GOSPEL

It's great to be back! Our fall season begins this week with an all-new series based on the shortest and most focused examination of Jesus himself in the New Testament. We hear people say all the time, *"Just give me Jesus."* This Gospel is closest to that sentiment than any other. The story of Jesus in the New Testament begins in the Gospel of Mark (It actually came before Matthew). All the others come after. This will be a long haul but a thorough one. Peel back all the noise, cultural, and religious confusion. This is **Simply Jesus**.

What have you been up to? Let's catch up.

How do you primarily learn and grow in your faith? (Worship? Preaching? Podcasts? Reading the Bible? Praying? Serving?)

TALK ABOUT IT

We keep hearing attention spans are getting shorter. We see evidence of it in children and how they learn or struggle to learn.

How have you seen it in adults?

How have you seen it effect spiritual growth in your own life and others?

How and why do you think biblical literacy is at a high or low level?

What do you think our church needs most right now?

Read Mark 1:1

Don't panic! *"Wait, this is all the scripture we're going to get today?"* Yes, because it says a whole lot. It is short but one of the most powerful sentences ever spoken. Don't worry, there is plenty of scripture coming, trust me.

Russ said the whole earthly story of Jesus, birth to resurrection, is only the beginning of the Christian story.

If the Gospel of Mark is the first chapter of the Christian story, how do you think it sets the stage for the rest of it?

APPLY IT

Jesus' story sets the stage for eternity, this life and the next.

How will people truly know Jesus by observing his people?

PRAY

It's always beneficial to close your time together by simply checking in on one another. We may never know what's going on in one another's lives unless we open a door and ask.