

John Mark Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

The four Gospel writers cover a wide spectrum of the composition of the early church. Why do you think the Holy Spirit included John Mark?

Why is the episode of “streaking” in the garden of Gethsemane included in the record?

How does the details of Peter’s reception at the house of Mark’s mother give insight into the life of the early church?

Does God have a sense of humor?

How would it feel to have let down your cousin and the great apostle Paul on your first ministry assignment?

How would it affect his subsequent life?

Is it also likely that he felt guilty about the split of Paul and Barnabas over whether to bring him again?

Why are these things included in the Scriptural record?

Is it possible that Peter’s early failure made him compassionate towards the young man?

Would Mark have been especially diligent in recording Peter’s teaching?

Paul made a practice including messages of thanks and gratitude in his letters. Does this show how those messages can be a great encouragement to the person thanked.

Do you thank people for their contributions to your life and ministry?

Do you sometimes do it in writing?

How does that differ from a verbal “thank you”?

Does God limit his assignments to perfect people?

If you have failed, does John Mark’s story encourage you?

What do we need to learn to help keep us from failing or to bounce back from failure?

Is there a recognizable pattern to God’s method of accomplishing His will?

Is it the way earthly leaders would plan to do things?

Why does He use the weak, the insignificant, the unlikely?

