The Gospel According to Mark

1. Who, Where, Why, When, What

Who?

Where?

Why?

When?

What?

Mark 1:1,14-15

1The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

- 2. What is a gospel, or THE gospel?
- 3. The Gospel of Mark contains one action after another, connected by "and" or "and immediately". The text shifts from past to present tense, to make the action more lively. The written gospel may actually have been a script for a) acting, b) reading, c) recitation, or d) all of these.

4. "Mark" was written as a series of miraculous actions and multiple
conflicts, making it exciting to hear and read. The major conflicts in the
story, that build throughout, are Jesus' to the Jewish
religious leaders and their Roman Imperial overlords. These challenges
escalate from Jesus' preaching and practice of the kingdom of in
the villages of Galilee to the dramatic demonstration against the Temple
and confrontation with the leaders in
5. In "Mark" there is also conflict that builds between Jesus and his
, as they often don't understand either who Jesus is
and what he is teaching. By the time of the crucifixion, therefore, many of
them desert, deny and betray him. In contrast to the disciples'
misunderstanding and betrayal, the women depicted by Mark are models
of

Mark 15:40-41

⁴⁰ There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

6. The gospel of Mark originally ended in chapter 16, verse 8, (i.e ending	
with the story of the and the women's fears)	
to invite audiences to continue the story of and the	
kingdom of God. Later manuscripts, however, contained post-resurrection	
appearances by Jesus, taken from other gospel accounts, to make "Mark"	
conform to other canonical gospel patterns.	
Mark 16: between 8 and 9; shorter additional ending	
Mark 16: 9-19 (longer additional ending)	
7. "Mark" is written more or less as a novel. The disciples	S
are kept guessing until the very end as to who Jesus is and what his	
purpose was. We don't find out until the very end that the Jesus in Mark's	•
story is the, who was sent by God to be a prophet an	nd
martyr. Some scholars think this is why "Mark" is so short: once the	
audience hears/reads the ending and find out who and what Jesus was,	
they can go back and hear/read it again, to understand all the	
that were given along the way.	