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HANDBOOK

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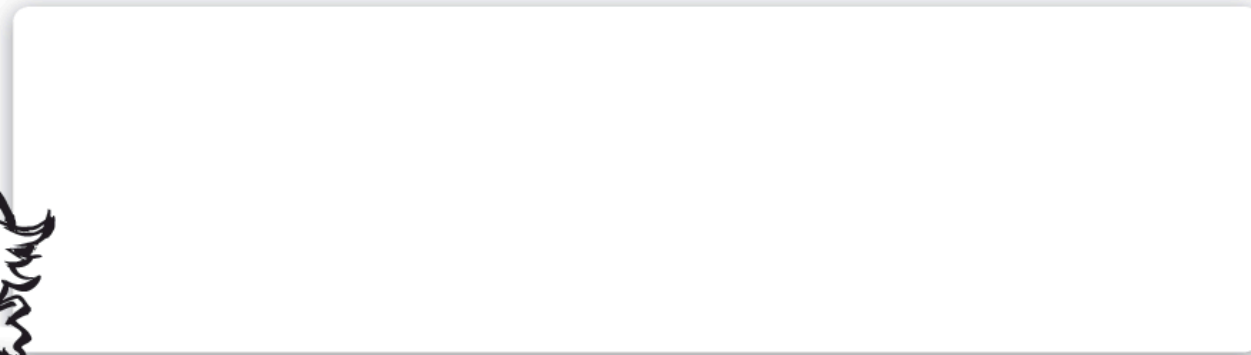
CY it's worth exploring

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

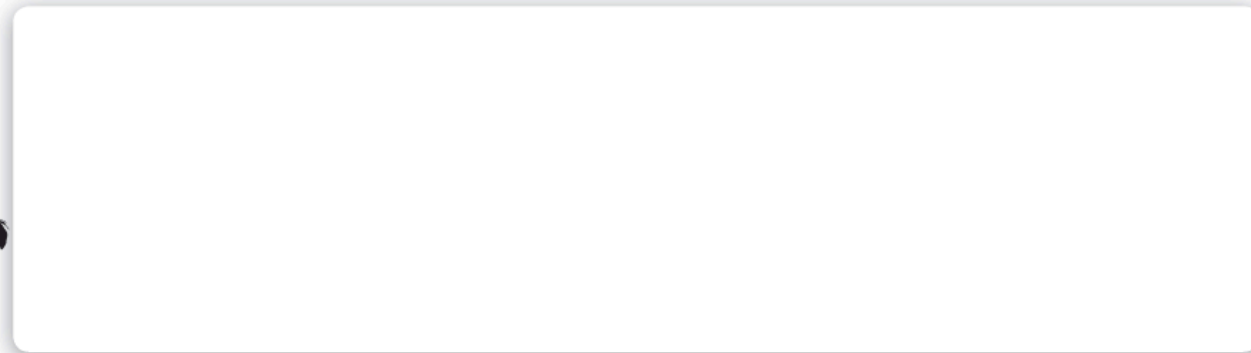
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READ MARK 1:1

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



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 don't matter or have any 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 show himself to us. Mark says he's done that for us by sending Jesus Christ. If we want to know what God's like, we must look at Jesus.
- › That's why "the gospel about Jesus Christ" is good news.

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talkback

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?
 (✓ your answers)
 Why do you think that is?

boring	full of rules	interesting
pointless	important	same as other religions
out of date	only for Sundays	your own suggestion here

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



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CY Jesus matters

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 story?
(Look at Mark 1:45 for clues.)

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Imagine you were in the room. How would you have felt when Jesus said: “Son, your sins are forgiven”? (See verse 5.) Why do you think he said it?

Why do the religious leaders get so upset when Jesus forgives the man’s sin? (See verse 7.) Do you think they are 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.)

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- › 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

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

What do *you* think
of Jesus?

talkback



CY Jesus lives

CY God accepts us

Inside track

CY We should believe