

Making Good on a 2nd Chance

The Life of Mark – Writer of the Gospel

- I. **Growing Up:** Mark's early Christian life
 - A. **With Jesus:** Present at Jesus' arrest? (Mark 14:51)
 - B. **Spiritual:** Led to faith through Peter? (1 Peter 5:13)
 - C. **Personal:** His mother was a godly host of the church in Jerusalem. He was called John/Mark (Acts 12:12).

- II. **Failure:** Mark's first try at ministry ended in failure.
 - Mark accompanied Paul and Barnabas on the first missionary journey, but then quit – going home to Jerusalem (Acts 12:25; 13:5,13).

- III. **Grace:** Barnabas gave Mark a second chance.
 - A. **Controversy:** Paul and Barnabas split over whether Mark should come along on the 2nd missionary journey (Acts 15:36-40).
 - "2nd Chances" We must show grace to those who initially seem to fail at ministry or the Christian life.
 - B. **Overcoming failure:** Mark went with Barnabas on 2nd trip – revisiting the place he had failed (Acts 15:39).
 - "Do over" We must go back to conquer where we quit.

- IV. **Usefulness:** Mark became an effective help to Paul in later life.
 - A. Mark became a trusted co-worker of Paul – serving him in prison (Colossians 4:10; Philemon 24).
 - B. Paul longed for Mark to come help him in his 2nd imprisonment (2 Timothy 4:11).