

Date : 15 June 2025
Theme : Gospel of Mark
Topic : John Mark's Journey:
His struggles and questions, his writings and transformation

Small group discussion:

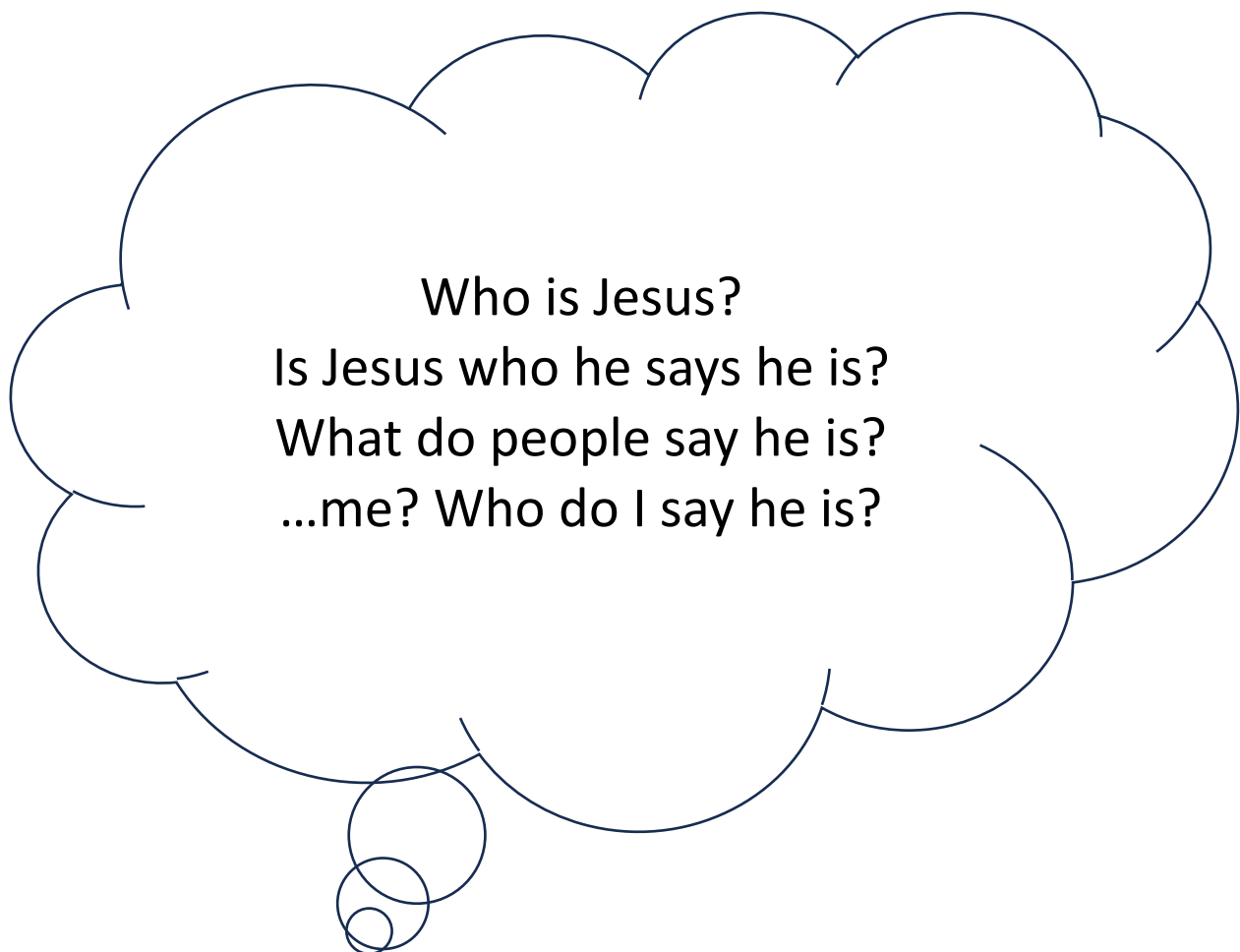
- Which aspect of Mark's story stood out for you?
- How does this change the way you approach reading Mark's gospel?
- If you have read *Mark* before, how did the previous way you read it differ from how you will read it this time?

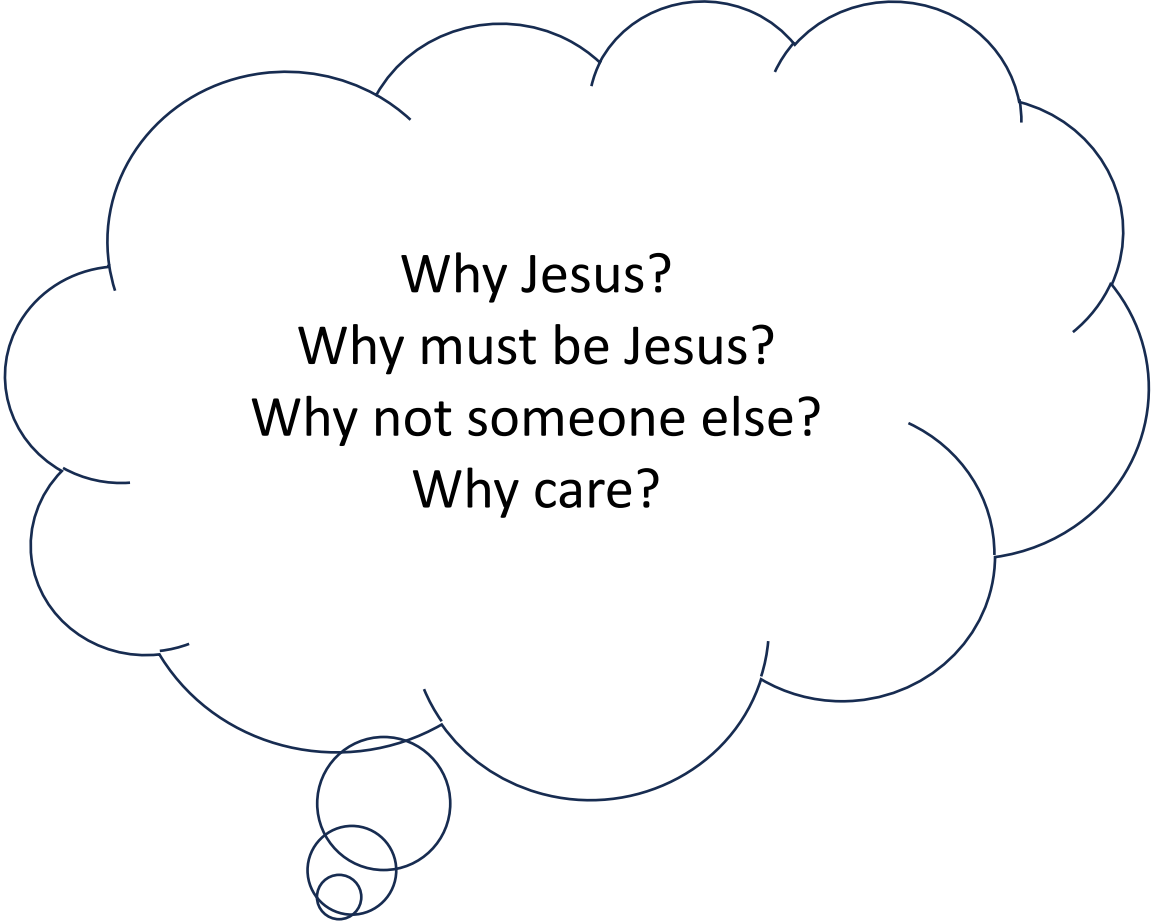
Let's read a short news story from Mark's gospel together.

- As you read the short story, what question came to mind?
- Might any of these questions be relevant to the story you just read.

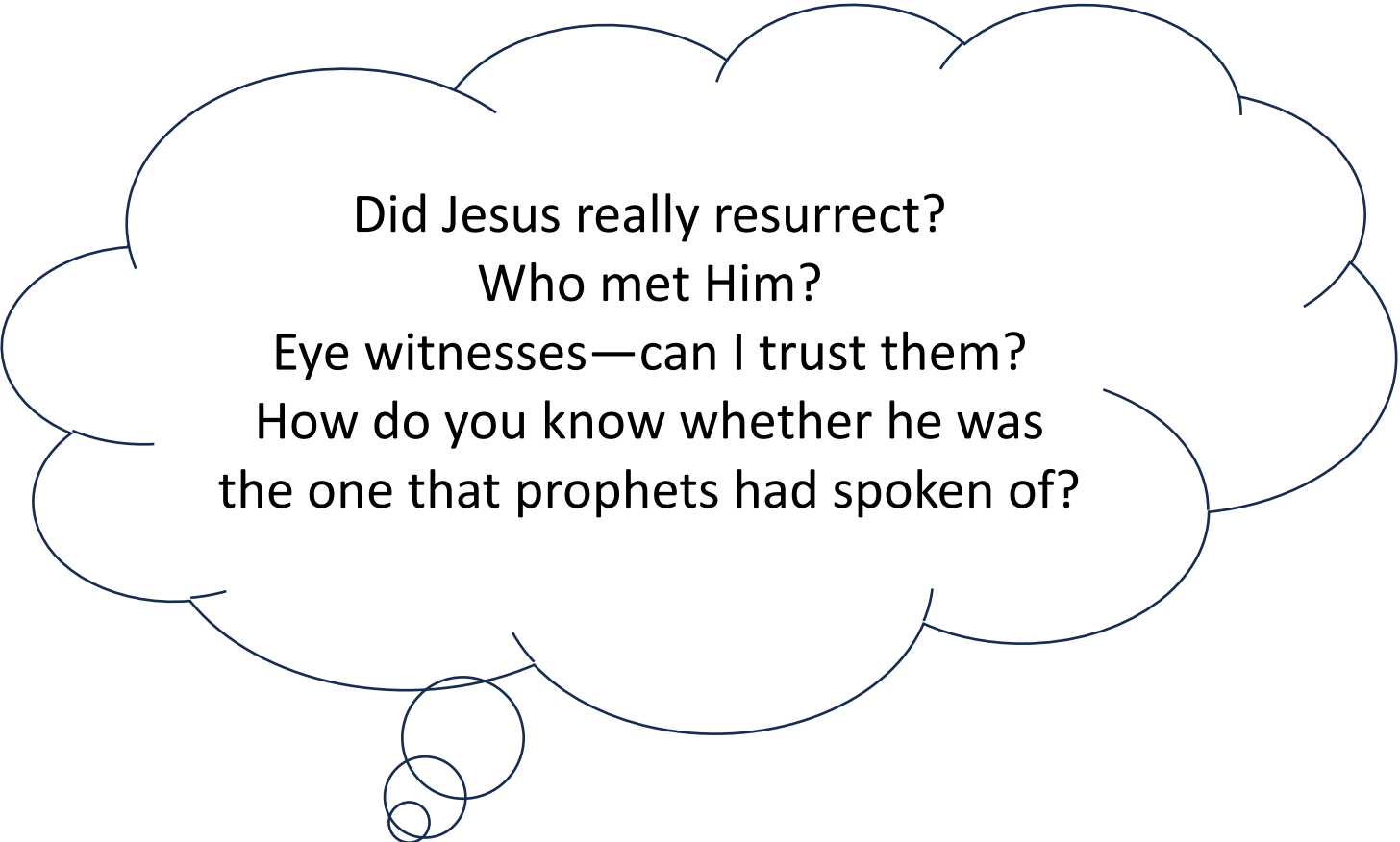
A.D. 30s

John Mark's Questions?

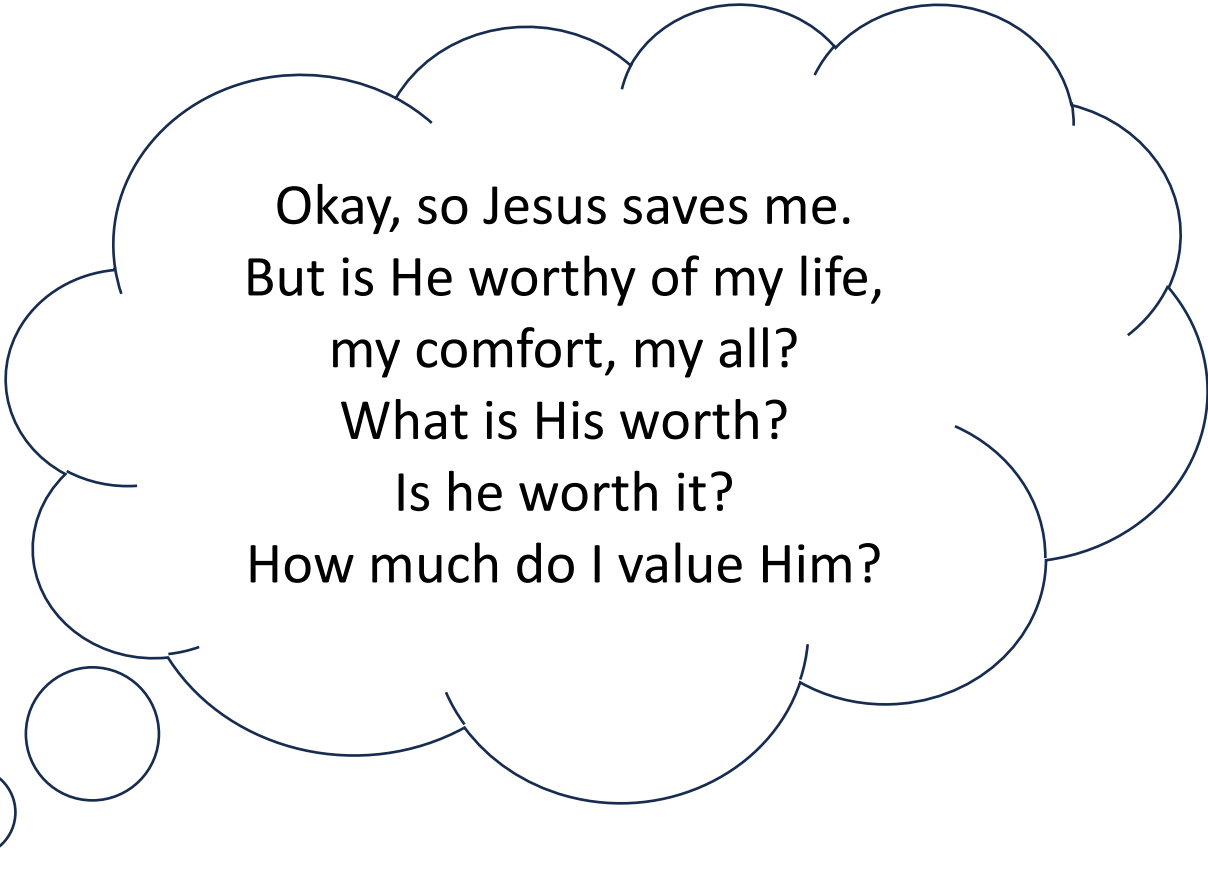




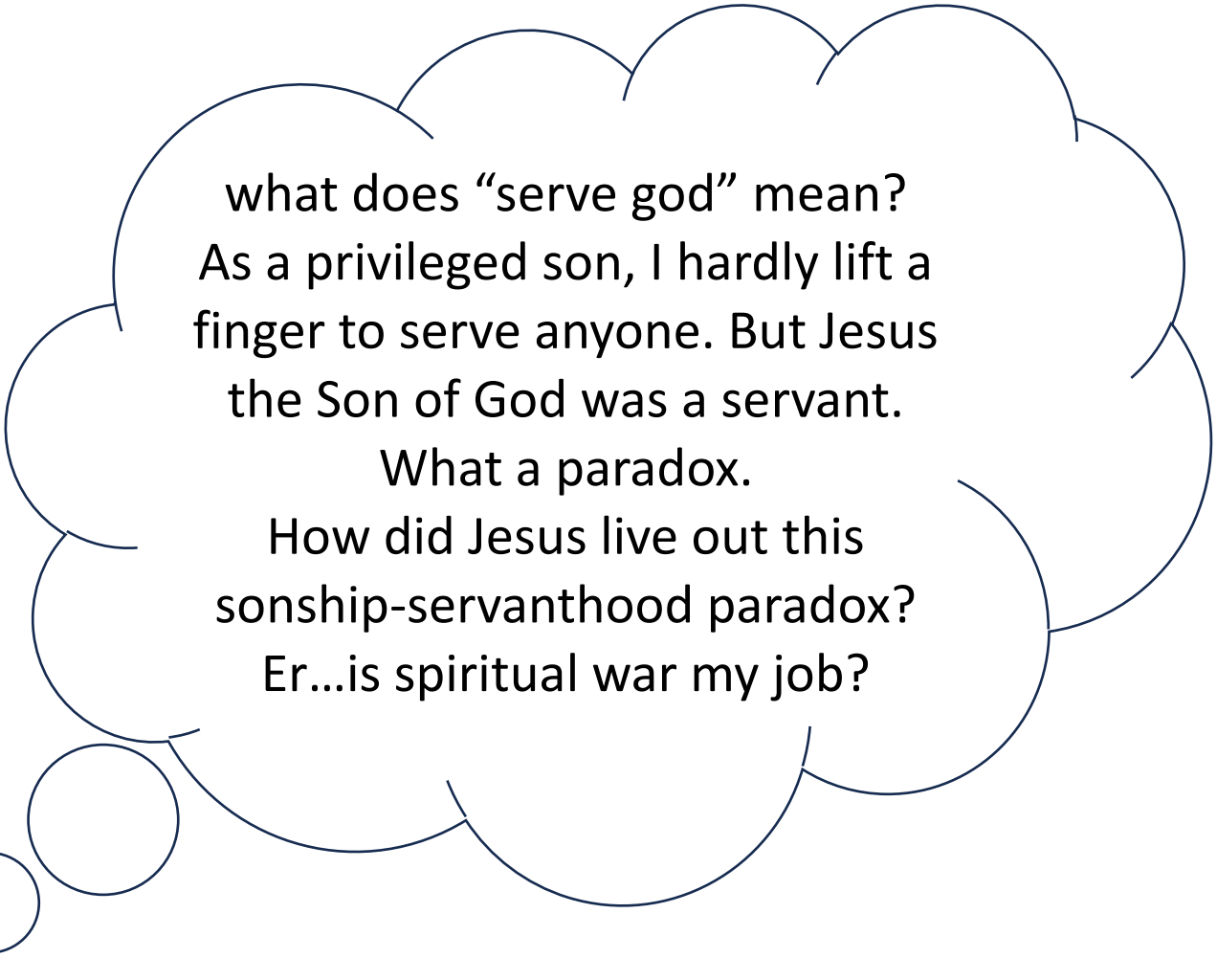
Why Jesus?
Why must be Jesus?
Why not someone else?
Why care?



Did Jesus really resurrect?
Who met Him?
Eye witnesses—can I trust them?
How do you know whether he was
the one that prophets had spoken of?

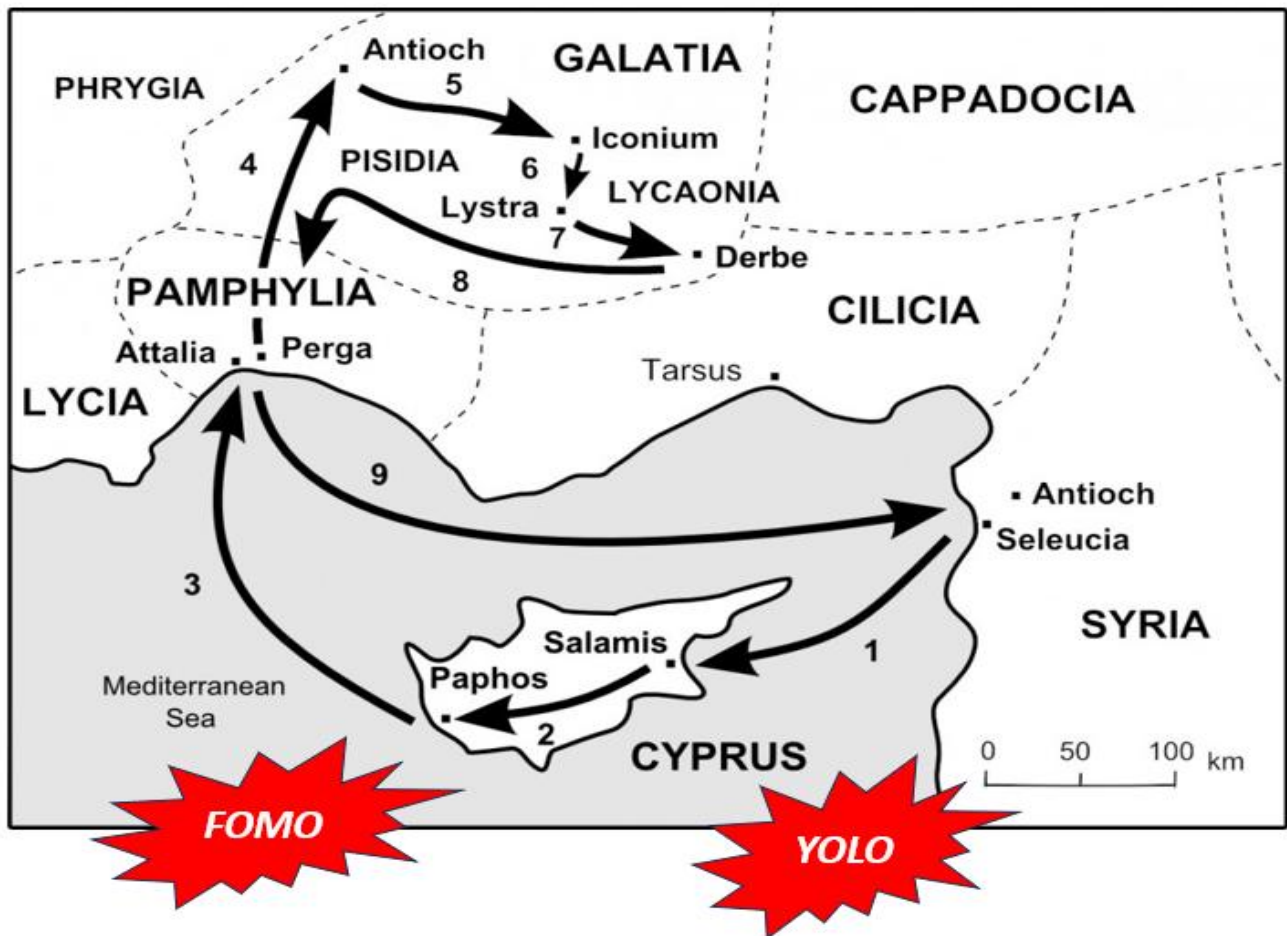


Okay, so Jesus saves me.
But is He worthy of my life,
my comfort, my all?
What is His worth?
Is he worth it?
How much do I value Him?



what does “serve god” mean?
As a privileged son, I hardly lift a
finger to serve anyone. But Jesus
the Son of God was a servant.
What a paradox.
How did Jesus live out this
sonship-servanthood paradox?
Er...is spiritual war my job?

A.D. 47-48 first missionary Journey



Bible references used in the re-construction of John Mark's story:

- Acts 12:12 John Mark's house and mother
- Colossians 4:10 Barnabas and John Mark are cousins
- Acts 12:25 Barnabas and Paul brought John Mark along
- Acts 13:5 John Mark at Salamis
- Acts 13:6 to 12 Meeting the proconsul; confrontation with Elymas the sorcerer
- Acts 13:13 At Perge in Pamphylia, John Mark left.
- Acts 15:36 to 39 Paul and Barnabas split over John Mark. Barnabas takes John Mark to Cyprus.
- Eventually, was John Mark among the deserters or the reliable men?
Answer found in 2 Timothy 4:11

Other references:

- *When was Mark's gospel written?*

<https://dwightlongenecker.com/when-was-marks-gospel-written/>

Why Mark's Gospel would not have been written after A.D. 67

- *Map Source:*

<https://www.thebiblejourney.org/biblejourney1/9-pauls-journey-to-cyprus-pamphylia-galatia-paul-starts-his-1st-missionary-journey/>