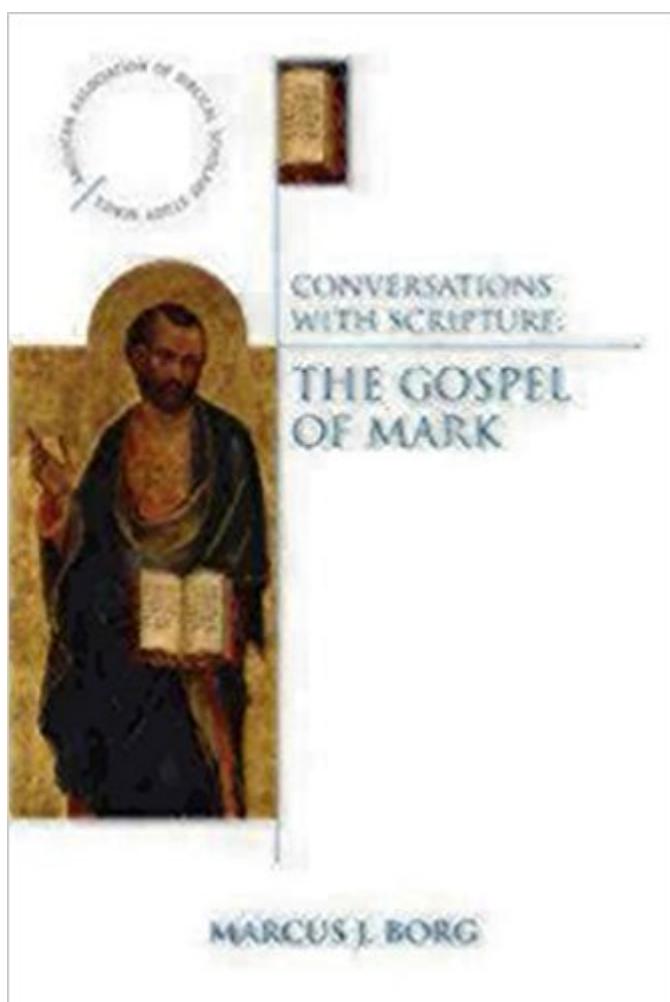


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# Conversations With Scripture - The Gospel Of Mark (Anglican Association Of Biblical Scholars Study)



## **Synopsis**

Most Christians are familiar with the story told in Mark's gospel, from the fishermen leaving their nets, to the miracle of the loaves and fishes, to the political rumblings and the crucifixion. But no one knows who Mark really was or why this gospel was written or why it's charged with such a sense of immediacy. For noted Jesus scholar Marcus Borg, reading Mark is like meeting Jesus again for the first time. Individual readers and parish study groups will learn about this earliest gospel from the perspective of an important Anglican theologian. *Conversations with Scripture* is the umbrella title of the Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars Study Series. Written in accessible language and sensitive to those who have little or no experience in reading the Bible, each book in the series focuses on exploring the historical and critical background, plus modern application of the texts. Other books in the series focus on the Gospel of John, Revelation, the Law, the Parables, and 2 Isaiah.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Borg reminds us that the gift of Mark's Gospel comes from the revelation of its meaning rather than from the literal translation of its text. *Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of Mark* is a must-read for those who long to understand more fully the Kingdom of God and the person of Jesus as Son of God." --John Bryson Chane, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C. "Marcus

Borg guides readers through Mark's Gospel with wisdom and insight. Borg's perceptive literary, historical, and theological observations accompany readers on their path through the Gospel. Laypersons and religious professionals alike will appreciate this accessible, engaging journey through Mark." --Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament, Lancaster Theological Seminary "The biggest mysteries of the Bible are the ones of the men behind the pens. Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of Mark investigates the gospel of Mark, one of the most crucial books of the Bible and how it came to be. With much historical sources, Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of Mark seeks to understand Mark, and through that, gain a greater understanding of the Bible." --The Midwest Book Review

"Marcus Borg guides readers through Mark's Gospel with wisdom and insight. Borg's perceptive literary, historical, and theological observations accompany readers on their path through the Gospel. Laypersons and religious professionals alike will appreciate this accessible, engaging journey through Mark." "Famed scholar Marcus Borg takes seriously the title of the series as he engages readers in interactive conversation about the Gospel of Mark. Borg offers his own interpretation of the text, at times profound and always provocative, inviting readers to consider their own interpretation along the way."

I have been a fan of Marcus Borg for some time now. He is one of a handful of biblical scholars who have as a mission of bringing the fruits of critical biblical scholarship into the pew. Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of Mark is not a verse by verse commentary on Mark. Rather it is an overview that breaks the gospel into five segments for discussion: Overture and Beginning (Mk. 1-3); Parables and Miracles (Mk. 4-5); Rejection, Miracles and Conflict (Mk. 6-8); From Galilee to Jerusalem (Mk. 8-10) and Jerusalem, Execution and Ressurection (Mk. 11-16). Borg writes from both a Christian perspective and a mainstream scholarly perspective. Each chapter explores different themes found in the related chapters of Mark, what they meant to the hearers of Mark's gospel in the 1st century and what they might mean to us today. The book includes an extensive Study Guide (not written by Borg) with excellent questions for group or individual study. While Borg is a world-recognized biblical scholar he is gentle with those who are unfamiliar with this work and whose understanding may be more traditional. For me, it is high time that the church embrace this kind of work and include its findings in its own messaging. Co-incidentally, I am starting a Bible Study tomorrow based on this book and am quite excited about it.

Dr. Borg is so gifted in taking complex knowledge based on years of study and distilling it so anyone can have access. He is as valuable to the professional as he is to a novice bible student. Not all the people agree with his perspectives, for sure. Nevertheless, those perspectives are important to hear and ponder. I have no apology to make for offering his thoughts to others. How they respond is always interesting and the basis for further dialogue. For me, this is an incredible formation process for the people of God.

I've been a Christian for over 30 years. Only recently have I been getting into Marcus Borg's work. I must say that he presents things in a realistic and applicable fashion that is easily understandable without getting into high level exegesis, which he is quite capable of in some works. I find this book to be refreshing and informative, I walk away from this work feeling complete and not asking more questions than I had when I first started reading as I do with a lot of Christian writing. He presents the facts and not developed tradition, although he explains how the tradition develops over time. I encourage readers to purchase this book as well as other works by Marcus Borg. The voice of reality.

This gives you a lot to think about and great for small groups. Be prepared for some liberal thoughts. Definitely worth reading and given some liberal thinking will give a group a lot to share and discuss.

Insightful and always thought provoking.

We are using this book for a Bible study at church! Very thought provoking!

#### HEDLPED VERY MUCH IN MY STUDIES AT COLLEGE

Marcus Borg is an authoritative Bible scholar with a clear, readable writing style. He analyzes the gospel with historical and cultural insights, and relies on the reader reading the gospel first. His discussion questions challenge the reader to make the gospel's truths his/her own.

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