

## WEEK 43 — CONTROVERSY AROUND JESUS INCREASES

**Date:** about AD 27-28

**The Story:** God continues to gradually reveal who Jesus is—to those needing healing, to Jewish religious leaders, and especially to Jesus' closest disciples. They see all his miracles and hear all his teaching, and they get inside information about his coming suffering (though they don't yet understand). A few of them see Jesus glorified in his transfiguration, and Moses and Elijah talking with him! Who is this man? Controversy increases around him as he continues his ministry of teaching, healing, and drawing people to God.

\* Kids' readings may not align with the daily full readings. Parents, see the content ratings on the back page.

### OCTOBER 23 MATTHEW 15-17

**Today's reading** dives into the second half of Jesus' ministry (taking his feeding of the five thousand in Matthew 14 as the approximate centerpoint of his ministry). His teachings and miracles continue; so does the mix of some people's faith and others' refusal to believe. New here are his predictions of his coming suffering (16:21, 17:22-23). His transfiguration highlights this reading as a few disciples see Jesus glorified.

**Date:** about AD 28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Matthew 15:1 to 17:13 • Matthew 17:24-27

**Kids' Reading\*:** Matthew 15

### OCTOBER 24 MATTHEW 18-19

**Today's reading** offers a series of teachings by Jesus, several of which challenge his contemporaries' (and our) value systems. To be the greatest in the kingdom, you must become like little children; you must forgive others as fully as you would like God to forgive you; divorce is almost always unacceptable to God; and so on. The parable of the lost sheep, one of Jesus' most famous parables, is here (18:10-14, and also Luke 15:1-7 with a different nuance).

**Date:** about AD 28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Matthew 18-19

**Kids' Reading\*:** Matthew 17

### OCTOBER 25 MARK 6-7

**Today's reading** reviews several stories we've read from Matthew and Luke, beginning shortly before the feeding of the five thousand. Notice Mark's longer account of the death of John the Baptist (6:14-29). Also notice the healing of the deaf man in 7:32-35, which is unique to Mark. Of interest to Bible scholars is Mark's explanation of the Pharisees' traditions (7:3-4), which suggests that Mark wrote his gospel primarily for a Gentile audience unfamiliar with such nuances of Jewish culture.

**Date:** about AD 28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Mark 6:14 to 7:37

**Kids' Reading\*:** Matthew 18:21-35 • Matthew 19:13-30

### OCTOBER 26 MARK 8-9

**Today's reading** continues more stories familiar from Matthew and Luke, but with Mark's unique touches. Only Mark tells us about the double-healing of the blind man (8:22-26), which is a sort of parable-in-action expressing the disciples' need to have *their* eyes more fully opened by Jesus. In time, their eyes will be fully opened. Jesus predicts his death three times in Mark 8-10; each time the next story tells of his disciples failing to live out the values of God's kingdom. Even those closest to Jesus took a while to learn his ways!

**Date:** about AD 28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** Mark 8:1 to 9:37

**Kids' Reading\*:** Mark 6:14-56 • Mark 7:31-37

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ

**OCTOBER 27**

**JOHN 5-6**

**Today's reading**, in John's typical manner, brings us stories unique to his gospel. First, Jesus heals an invalid—on a Sabbath day, which stirs up controversy (as earlier in Matthew 12:9-14). Jesus did not shy away from the disapproval his Sabbath-day healings engendered. Second, Jesus feeds the five thousand—a story included in all four gospels—and that event is followed by a new story as people race in search of more food from Jesus. But is it the kind of food Jesus wants to give them?

**Date:** about AD 27-28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** John 5:1-30 • John 6

**Kids' Reading\*:** Mark 8:1 to 9:1

**OCTOBER 28**

**JOHN 7-8**

**Today's reading** tells of Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem at the time of the Festival of Tabernacles (in our September/October). Right away responses to Jesus are mixed: some believe in him, others (including his own brothers) don't. Is Jesus from God or isn't he? Watch for a brief reappearance of Nicodemus, who spoke with Jesus at night in chapter 3. Also watch for what Jesus says about the devil. *Note: John 7:53 to 8:11 probably was not originally a part of the Gospel of John. It's not present in the earliest copies of John, suggesting that someone added it later. It interrupts the flow of the story in chapters 7-8. Even so, it could be a true story about Jesus; we just can't be sure. Read it if you like, but remember that John probably intended no break between 7:52 and 8:12.*

**Date:** about AD 28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** John 7:1-52 • John 8:12-59

**Kids' Reading\*:** Mark 9:2-29 • John 5:1-15 • John 7:1-13

**OCTOBER 29**

**JOHN 9-10**

**Today's reading** starts with Jesus healing someone on the Sabbath—again. Why does he keep doing that, knowing it will cause trouble? Pay attention to how John contrasts the faith of the formerly-blind man with the lack of faith among the Jerusalem Pharisees, who should have been the most faithful of all. The debate in chapter 9 leads into some of Jesus' most memorable teaching in 10:1-18. What does it mean that Jesus is the "good shepherd"? The Festival of Dedication (10:22) is Hanukkah, which comes in December.

**Date:** about AD 28

**In a hurry? 10-minute reading:** John 9-10

**Kids' Reading\*:** John 9:1 to 10:21

### Parents' Guide

#### PG preview for young children

**Mt 15:**4 (T), 19 (S, T, V)

**Mt 16:**4 (S), 21 (V), 23-26 (T, V)

**Mt 17:**15 (T), 23 (V)

**Mt 18:**25 (T), 28-34 (T, V)

**Mt 19:**9 (S), 12 (S), 18 (S, T, V)

**Mk 6:**17-19 (T, V)

**Mk 7:**10 (T, V), 21-22 (S, T, V)

**Mk 8:**31 (V), 33-37 (T, V)

**Mk 9:**17-18 (T), 22 (T), 26 (T), 31 (V)

**Jn 6:**70-71 (T)

**Jn 7:**1 (V), 7 (T), 20 (V), 22-23 (C), 25 (V), 30 (V)

**Jn 8:**3-7 (S, V), 24 (T), 37 (V), 40 (V), 41 (T), 44 (T, V), 59 (V)

**Jn 10:**31-32 (V), 39 (V)

#### PG-13 preview for under age 13

**Mt 18:**6-9 (T, V)

**Mk 6:**16 (V), 24-29 (V)

**Mk 9:**42-49 (T, V)

**Jn 6:**51-58 (T)

**Jn 8:**22 (V)

**R shocking, graphic, or disturbing**  
none

C = Circumcision

N = Nudity

S = Sexuality

T = Dark/Sensitive Themes

V = Violence