

*Biblical Illustrator* Articles  
for  
**EXPLORE THE BIBLE**  
(Original usage date: Spring 2019)

Unit 1 – Mark

Session 1 – March 3

- **Mark: The Man and His Gospel**
- **Where John Was Baptizing**
- First-Century Occupations
- John the Messenger
- The “Wilderness” in Jesus’ Temptation
- The Kingdom of God in Mark

Session 2 – March 10

- House Construction in the First Century
- Capernaum in Jesus’ Day
- Who Were the Scribes?

Session 3 – March 17

- **Idumea in the First Century**
- Of Demons and the Devil: A Historical Overview
- Jesus’ Family: All We Know
- Jesus and the Crowd

Session 4 – March 24

- Death, A First-Century Understanding
- Jesus and the Crowd
- The Synagogue in the First Century
- Asleep or Dead

Session 5 – March 31

- **Authority**
- Of Demons and the Devil: A Historical Overview
- Repentance in First-Century Thought
- Sandals and Shoes

Session 6 – April 7

- **QuickBites: Dogs in Ancient Cultures**
- Of Demons and the Devil: A Historical Overview
- Beside the Sea of Galilee
- What Was the Decapolis?
- Tyre and Sidon

Session 7 – April 14

- Jesus the Master Teacher
- Jesus and the Crowd
- The Spirit World in the First Century

Session 8 – April 21

- Elijah and Messianic Expectations
- The Practice of Roman Crucifixion
- Hours of a Day
- Jesus’ “Eloi” Cry

Session 9 – April 28

- **In the House of Zebedee**
- A Slave’s Status in the First Century
- Zebedee the Fisherman
- Standards of Greatness in the First Century
- The Rulers of the Gentiles

Session 10 – May 5

- **Economics of the Temple**
- Thieves and Robbers
- Widowhood in Jesus’ Day
- The Temple Treasury: Its History and Function
- Temple Merchants

Session 11 – May 12

- Jerusalem Destroyed by Titus
- Watchful Endurance
- A Servant’s Responsibility for Vigilance

Session 12 – May 19

- **Who Were the Scribes?**
- Alabaster
- Bethany in the First Century
- Jesus’ Inner Circle
- Gethsemane

Session 13 – May 26

- Pilate’s Role in Jesus’ Death
- The Sanhedrin, Their History & Function
- Joseph of Arimathea