

## How Can we be inspired by John Mark?

### 1) Relationships

John Mark was the son of Mary who hosted early Christian meetings in her house. Acts 12:12

There is no indicator of his father in the Bible

He is cousin with Barnabas Col 4:10

Possibly a convert of Peter. 1 Peter 5:13

Surrounded by people dedicated to God in his youth  
Probably familiar with Jesus and the apostles since his young age.

**Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm. Prov 13:20**

Who you associate with has significant implication for your life.

Challenge: **Who influences you?**

Application: **Surround yourself with people who hold qualities you value. Choose your surrounding wisely.**

### 2) Roles in missions

John Mark's first appearance was during the relief mission by Paul and Barnabas Acts 11:27-10; 12:25

Then he went to assist Paul and Barnabas into mission in Asia: Minor Acts 13:2-5.

It appears that John Mark did not wish to continue into mission with Paul and Barnabas so he left them. Acts 13:13. We are not told why.

John Mark's decision to leave caused dispute between Paul and Barnabas that led to separation. Acts 15:36-41

But that hurting relationship was healed as we see in Paul's later reference to John Mark. Col: 4:10; Phlm 24; 2 Ti 4:11

Paul and Barnabas are set apart by the Holy Spirit for their ministry. John Mark seems to be called to be a support for others.

Application: Each one serves according to the grace giving by God; our service should be done not in our own strength but empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Some qualities observable in the life of John Mark:

**Forgiveness – Restoration – Maturity.**

John Mark became Peter's interpreter

He wrote the gospel that bears his name, presenting Jesus as the son of God becoming human (the son of man) to serve others. The gospel is believed to be based on Peter's preaching.

The influence of others on John Mark made him to become who he is; in turn, he matured to influence others.

Challenge: Who do you influence? What is your circle of influence?

Example of how our influence can impact others.

Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So, they went down to Bethel.

2Kings 2: 2

Application: each of us have much to offer. We must be alert as to how God wants us to reach out to other; doing small or big things. Share what you know, give your time, resources.... for being the daughter or the son of your heavenly father.