

# Alabaster Vessels

*Dear Reader,*

*Before you begin this particular study in the Gospel of Mark, there are a couple of things you might need to know.*

*First, there are many Bible studies available today that are exceptional in quality and can help you grow in your knowledge and understanding of the scriptures. They range from a basic overview of the Word targeting specific topics, to highly academic and educational studies for the serious student or scholar. We also live at a time with easy access to a treasure trove of study materials, commentaries, resources, computerized libraries and Bible programs. There are more audio and video recordings of preachers and teachers on the web than a person could ever glean from in a lifetime.*

*So with that thought in mind, please understand that the primary focus of this study is not to increase a person's knowledge academically. It has been prayerfully written to be a "devotional" Bible study. The kind that allows you to bring your heart and thoughts before the Lord and enable Him to speak to you on an individual level. The questions have been designed to be reflective, provoke prayer, reveal the "thoughts and intents" of the heart, and to draw the reader into a deeper relationship with God.*

*The secondary purpose of this study is particular to the gospel of Mark. As each gospel writer held a unique perspective of our Savior, Mark's account is a wonderful illustration of the Servant heart of God. So whether you are a housewife or a widow, student or employee, in public ministry or one that is hidden from other's view, may the Holy Spirit lead you into a greater understanding of how to serve the Lord in a way that honors His heart.*

*May you be encouraged as you walk through the study, fixing your eyes on Jesus, anchoring your heart in His Word, and surrendering your will to the beautifying work of the Holy Spirit.*

*By grace alone,*



*Shannon Gallatin*

*\*This study will use the New King James version of the Bible unless otherwise stated.*