

# Sermon Notes

“John the Baptist Martyred”

Mark 6:14-29

September 14, 2025

5. How was John’s condemnation of Herod’s adulterous marriage (6:17-18) related to the central message of John’s preaching (Mark 2:1-6; c.f. Luke 3:7-14)? How did Herodias respond (6:18-19)? How about Herod (6:20)? Who do you know that has responded with a grudge or perplexed by the gospel call for repentance? How can you minister to each?
  
6. Herod knew John to be a righteous and holy man (6:20); how do you think people view you?
  
7. The martyrdom of John illustrates the ultimate cost of discipleship, an important Markan theme in the chapters that follow. Mark shows that the path of true discipleship is one of self-denial and self-sacrifice (8:34). Contrast John and Herod using the themes from 8:34-38.
  
8. If someone were to ask, “Where was God when this horrible tragedy occurred to one of His servants?”, how would you respond?

**Let's Pray:**

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of 09-14-2025

Questions adapted from James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, p. 80-81; Lyman Coleman, et.al., eds., Serendipity New Testament for Groups, Serendipity House, Littleton, CO, 1986, p. 99; James Hoover, Mark: Follow Me, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 1999, pp. 33; Ted Dorman, Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., Life Change Series: Mark, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1995, pp. 72-73.

## Getting Started:

1. Who do your friends and acquaintances think Jesus is?

## Digging Deeper:

Read Mark 6:14-29.

2. What were people saying about Jesus and why (6:14-16)? What false ideas about Jesus do people entertain today?
3. What do Herod's actions throughout this episode say about the way sin operates in a person's life (6:14-29)? What can we learn from Herod's negative example about preventing sin from "snowballing" or getting out of control?
4. Why had Herod arrested and imprisoned John the Baptist (6:17-18)? When has it been difficult for you to confront someone about sin, as John confronted Herod? What responsibility do Christians have to confront nonbelievers with their sin and to tell them of the remedy that Christ offers?