

# Instructions 101

## Reformation Scribes: The Gospel of Mark Project

Thank you for being part of a new dynamic faith engagement project at Reformation!

Reformation Scribes: The Gospel of Mark Project is a handwritten NRSV copy of Mark's Gospel for worship use. Created by you and 90 Reformation members and friends, this project is designed to bring us together as we continue to be apart during this time COVID-19 pandemic.

Like the scribes of old, our purpose in writing out, scribing this gospel, is to share the message of Jesus' teaching to people living in our times, the message of God's love for all. The compilation of our works affirms our unique styles all while celebrating diversity among us. God created beauty when God created you. You belong!

The following instructions and illustrations are here to guide you. Contact Deacon Beth if you have any questions or concerns at [deaconbeth@relcmedia.org](mailto:deaconbeth@relcmedia.org) or at 803.646.0599.

Remember, through the uniqueness of your scribing style, and the efforts of others, together we will create a beautiful document to the glory of God!

1. In your large white envelop is your scribing packet. Your packet includes the selected section from Mark you chose when you registered, instructions, six sheets of paper, a Questions and Answer sheet, and a return reminder flyer. *Do not throw out your large white envelope. You will use this to return your scribed passage to Reformation.*
2. When you are ready to begin, create a workspace that is comfortable for you.
3. Read your selection silently and aloud two or three times.
4. Practice writing 'scribing' your name, letters and numbers on regular notebook paper with your favorite pen or pencil, marker, or quill. Continue to warm up your hands and fingers by writing out a few of the verses. In addition, if there are words that are unique or usual to your ear, practice those as well on notebook paper.
5. You have six sheets of specialty paper in your packet. Three have boxes as well as lines and these can be used if you would like to add art or color, illumination, before or after you have scribed your passage. And, you do not need to stay within the lines. Have fun! You also have three lined sheets with no boxes. You are welcome to use these if you do not wish to illuminate your work. So too, you are welcome to use both if you have longer text and need multiple pages.
6. On the top line you are to 'title' your section. You will write the name of gospel followed by the chapter number, then a colon, then verse numbers separated by a dash. Such as: *Mark 1: 1-8*
7. On the next line below the 'title' you will take a full line or additional line to add your 'section header.' Such as: *The Proclamation of John the Baptist*
8. Then *skip a line* to create intentional space between the section header and the main body of your scribing.
9. You will number each verse with a small numeral before each verse. Such as: *1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,....*

10. If you have quotations/citations in your text, please indent them. Such as:

*1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
"See I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare  
your way; 3 the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his path straight.'"  
4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming repentance for the forgiveness of sins.*

11. You will scribe until you have completely written your selected passage. If you use more than one page it is particularly important to 'number' your pages. Please add a number in the lower right-hand corner your paper. Some of you will use three or more pieces of paper.

12. When you have completed your section, sign your name on the last line on the paper at the end of your scribed section.

13. Finally, add illumination if you would like. Be creative. This is your unique style so there are no limits on how you illuminate 'decorate' your pages. It is your choice from beginning to end. If you are curious about formal illuminated documents – contemporary and of old, use your computer web browser and do an image search for illuminated manuscripts, illuminated lettering. For centuries books, sacred text, letters, and even sheets of music were illuminated in varied color and style. Your search will be a feast for the eye and mind.

14. If you need more paper, please ask. It will be provided.

15. The deadline for all submissions is October 31, 2020. Return your scribed text in your provided white large envelop to the Reformation Scribes: The Gospel of Mark, clear bin located at the main entry doors of Reformation. (It will be under the bench.) Please ensure the lid is firmly secured after placing your documents inside.

16. Remember: all handwriting, little or big, loopy or wobbly, printed tall or written small is acceptable. If you go off the lines or use two or three lines at a time, this is acceptable. Let go of that 'perfect penmanship' mindset and celebrate doing God's work, with your hands.

17. How else might I be of help? Don't hesitate to contact me via email, text, or phone call.

