

*January 2004*

# Book of the Month

*Scott Engle*

## *Mark for Everyone*

by Tom Wright

Each year, nearly all of us come up with a few New Year's resolutions. I suspect that many of us, at one time or another, have resolved to begin reading the Bible. Obviously, this is a great resolution to make, but we sometimes go about it the wrong way. Often, we begin with Genesis and then plunge into Exodus. Things go well; the stories hold our interest. But then we run into Leviticus and our momentum slows. If we make it through Leviticus, then Numbers almost surely brings our project to a halt! There is a better way.

I urge people to begin with Mark's Gospel. It is action-oriented and relatively short (you could read the whole thing in an hour). Mark will give you a fascinating portrait of Jesus and his ministry. But even with as straight-forward a book as Mark's Gospel, most of us could use some help in making sense of this ancient writing and seeing what it means for us.

One of the foremost NT scholars working today, Bishop Wright has a real talent for writing in a very warm and approachable manner. He provides us with a very readable translation and some eye-opening reflections on its meaning for us. The book is very suitable for daily reading and includes a helpful glossary in the back. If you want to develop a daily Bible reading habit this year, Bishop Wright's book is a great way to get started.