

Messianic Secret

In Mark

1:24-25	Demon	²⁴ “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “ Be silent , and come out of him!”
1:34	Demon	And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak , because they knew him.
1:42-44	Leper	⁴² And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. ⁴³ And Jesus sternly charged him and sent him away at once, ⁴⁴ and said to him, “ See that you say nothing to anyone , but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to them.”
3:11-12	Demon	¹¹ And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “ You are the Son of God. ” ¹² And he strictly ordered them not to make him known .
5:41-43	Crowd	⁴¹ Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” ⁴² And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. ⁴³ And he strictly charged them that no one should know this , and told them to give her something to eat.
7:24	Israel	And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know , yet he could not be hidden.
7:35-37	Crowd	³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one . But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”
8:25-26	Blind man	²⁵ Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶ And he sent him to his home, saying, “ Do not even enter the village. ”
8:29-30	Peter	²⁹ And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “ You are the Christ. ” ³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.
9:2, 7, 9	Peter, James, John	² And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them ... ⁷ And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “ This is my beloved Son; listen to him. ” ... ⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
9:30-32	Disciples	³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “ The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise. ” ³² But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

“Why the secret? With Jesus’ announcement in Mark 8:31, the reason becomes clear.

*Popular expectations among the Jews were centered on a warrior Messiah
who would defeat the Romans and establish God’s Kingdom on earth.*

The inclination of the people would be to make Jesus king on their terms.

*In response, Jesus tamps down messianic expectations
in order to define the true (suffering) role of the Messiah.*

He is here to conquer much greater foes than the Roman legions.

He is here to destroy humanity’s greatest enemies: Satan, sin, and death.”

Mark L. Strauss