IN TRUTH Mark



Believe in Jesus

MEMORY VERSE: "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!" Mark 1:15

DAY 1

MARK 1:1-4 — The Beginning

- 1. What do Mark's first words tell you his gospel will be about? v. 1
- 2. Read verse 15. What do Jesus' first words tell you?
- 3. Read verses 2-5. What does baptism represent?
- 4. Repenting has two sides turning away from sins and turning toward God. What does 1 John 1:8-9 say to you?

DAY 2

MARK 1:5-11 — Baptism of Jesus

- 5. Read verses 5-8. How does John describe the One who will come after him? With what will Jesus baptize people?
- 6. Who is the Holy Spirit? Refer to the Mark Dictionary.

- 7. Read verses 9-11. As John baptized Jesus, what did Jesus see and hear? How is the Trinity (the 3-fold nature of God) revealed here?
- 8. Since John baptized people for the repentance of their sins, and Jesus never sinned, why do you think Jesus was baptized?
- 9. So far in the Gospel of Mark we see 4 witnesses testifying to the identity of Jesus. Mark said Jesus is the Son of God (1:1). The prophets said Jesus is Lord (1:2-3). John the Baptist said Jesus was the One after me who is greater than I (1:7-8). God the Father said Jesus is His dearly loved Son (1:11). Who do you say Jesus is?

DAY 3 MARK 1:12-13 — Temptation of Jesus

10. Read Mark 1:12-13 and Matthew 4:1-11. How did Satan/the Devil tempt Jesus? How was Jesus able to resist Satan?

11. Why do you think God's Spirit sent Jesus to suffer in the wilderness for 40 days? Refer to Hebrews 4:15.

DAY 4 MARK 1:16-20 — Jesus Calls His Disciples

12. Who did Jesus call to join Him? What does Jesus ask them to do? How did they respond to Jesus?

- 13. Why do you think they dropped everything and immediately followed Jesus? Do you think we should have that same urgency today? Explain.
- 14. Jesus was asking these men to become His disciples. Review the definition of disciple. What can we learn about following Jesus from these first disciples? How will you answer Him? Explain.

DAY 5 MARK 1:1-20 — Wrap Up

- 15. What can we learn about following Jesus from these first disciples? What should our attitude be towards Jesus?
- 16. What temptations do you face? What can you take away from Jesus' time in the desert?

TAKE AWAY

Jesus begins his public ministry by proclaiming "The time promised by God has come at last! The Kingdom of God is near! Repent, of your sins and believe the Good News!" (1:15) How have you responded to Jesus' message?

BLESSING

Lord Jesus, help me to follow you with my whole life and being. And when I don't do very well, teach me and help me to grow and be faithful. Amen.

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The Gospel of Mark is exciting! Mark invites us to follow Jesus through conflict, crisis, opposition, and rejection, and to discover along the way that God's purposes are fulfilled through the suffering of His Son. In Mark's Gospel we discover that the "good news" of God is not a formula, but a person. Jesus Christ is the gospel. He is good news!

Old Testament prophet Isaiah (40:3) foretold John the Baptist's coming, calling him the "messenger" sent to "prepare the way" for Jesus, the Messiah. Early Christians were called those "who belonged to the Way" (Acts 9:2) and Jesus stated, "I am the way" (John 14:6). He made a way to the Father,

showing us how to live a new life of faith, hope, love, and good deeds (Hebrews 10:19-25).

At Jesus' baptism, we learn: the heavens open above Him, the Spirit descends on Him, and God's voice speaks to Him - "You are my Son, whom I love."

Then Jesus began His ministry with two crucial actions. He defeated Satan and He began calling disciples. Jesus Christ comes to each of us where we are and says, "Come, follow Me." Like Simon, Andrew, James, and John— how will you respond?

Notes	