

8. How can this study will help you understand and be even more amazed at the real Jesus?

9. What can you find out about the region of Galilee from the map and material in Chapter 1?

Chapter One JESUS IS ON THE MOVE



WHERE IS JESUS?

1. Jesus left His home in Nazareth.
2. Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River.
3. Jesus endured temptation by Satan in the desert near Jericho.
4. Jesus returned to Capernaum, taught in the synagogue, cast out a demon, and dealt with the gathering crowds.

OVERVIEW : Mark skips any mention of Jesus' birth or genealogies because these would not have been important to his Gentile Roman readers. He jumps right in with the announcement of Jesus' arrival by John the Baptist. Jesus is God's Son (1:1). He was presented by John (vv. 2–8), certified by a voice from heaven (vv. 9–11), and was immediately tempted by Satan (vv. 12–13). Disciples who followed Him from the beginning (1:14–20) saw Him drive out demons (vv. 21–28) and heal the sick (vv. 29–34). He was dedicated to actively doing God's work by preaching the Good News (vv. 35–39). He demonstrated God's power by performing miracles, but He also expressed it by His compassion for the helpless (vv. 40–45). Mark wants his first-century readers, and us, to know Jesus, the Son of God who is also a powerful, vigorous, and totally admirable Man among men.

Read Mark 1:1.

- ? " Gospel " - This Greek word, *euangellizo*, may also be translated as "The good news." Like our English word, "evangelize," which comes from it, It has to do with announcing the good news of salvation and peace. See *Isaiah 52:7*.
- ? "Christ" - This is a Greek word which is translating the Hebrew word "Messiah" which means "anointed." As a passage like 1 Samuel 10:1 indicates, in ancient Israel, a person was anointed to be made king.

4. What prompted or compelled Jesus to go into the wilderness in 1:12?
5. How much do you rely on the prompting of the Holy Spirit to take action in your own life?
6. The text mentions that people were amazed with Jesus in 1:22 & 1:27. What amazed them about Jesus?
7. Are you amazed with the Jesus you know? What amazes you?

10. How do you tend to react when there is a need?
What can you learn from the way Jesus handled situation?

FOR YOUR GROUP STUDY:

1. What observations have you made in your study of Mark this week?
2. Jesus was not only a man on a mission who was on the move but He was also a man who not only spoke but He put actions behind His words. In the first chapter alone make a list of all the different things that Jesus actually did.
3. How important to you is it to see people put action to their words? This brings light to the phrase that we need to be “Jesus with skin on” to others.

Read Mark 1:2-3.

- ? The quotation is actually a combination of Isaiah 40:3, Exodus 23:20, and Malachi 3:1.

Read Mark 1:4-8.

- ? Compare John the Baptist with Elijah as described in 2 Kings 1:8. Now read Malachi 4:5 and Mark 9:11-13.

Read Mark 1:9-11.

- ? The same word for "torn open" will be used again in 15:38. Look it up and see how it is used there.
- ? Regarding the heavenly voice, see Psalm 2:7 and Isaiah 42:1.

Read Mark 1:12-13.

- ? "Immediately" – Pay attention to how often this term is used in Mark.
- ? On Satan, also see Mark 3:23-26; 4:15; and 8:33.

FOR YOUR PERSONAL STUDY:

1. The two biggest holidays in the church year are Christmas and Easter, but Mark has no birth story and no account of Jesus' resurrection appearances! What is given more attention in Mark? How does this shape your picture of Jesus?

2. Read Mark chapter 1 from several translations. What do you observe? Who are the main characters? What happens to them?

3. Mark uses title "Son of God" for Jesus (v. 1). What is the most significant title you use for Jesus in your life? Why?

4. How do you explain the relationship between the terms "baptism," "repentance," and "forgiveness"?

5. Read 1:9-11 again. If John's baptism was for repentance from sin, why do you think Jesus needed to be baptized?

6. As you read chapter 1, note each time you see the words, "immediately", "at once", "instantly" or similar words denoting urgency or immediacy.

7. Why do you think Jesus was able to react with immediacy and urgency? What frame of mind must He have to do so?

8. Does reacting quickly or immediately to a situation mean that we are not to be careful and intentional with how we go about our actions? Explain.

9. As you read the whole chapter at one sitting what do you notice about the pace of Jesus? Give some examples of how you came up with this conclusion.