

Living with Jesus
First Church of Squantum
• **Rev. Doug Gray**
Monday Night Bible Study
• **January 16, 2017**

John Baptizes Jesus
Mark 1

I. Welcome, Introductions and Prayer

Teaser: When I say the word, *water*, what image comes to mind? What are some things you can do with water?

II. Overview of Living with Jesus

- What would it have been like to “hang out” with Jesus? What were the things that were important to him?**
- Fly-over of Jesus’ life and teachings**

III. Things to Keep in Mind for Tonight

A. Who is Mark?

1. With Jesus? (Mark 14:51–52)

2. Part of the early church as “John also known as Mark” (Acts 12:12)

3. Early missionary (Acts 15:25) to Cyprus (15:37) and later, Egypt

4. Becomes protégé of Peter

**B. When is Mark written?
Earliest gospel (late 50s, early 60s)**

**Connection to other
gospels (Documentary
Hypothesis)**

**C. Things to look for
Punchy, journalistic,
action-packed, simple —
“immediately”**

**Not chronological, but
geographical**

**What's important to Mark
seems different than for
other gospels**

**(example: no birth
stories, fewer parables,
etc.)**

**The key for him is Jesus
and how people (we!)
see Him**

What is Mark's idea of what following Jesus means?

D. To whom is this gospel addressed?

Probably Gentiles

Probably to people persecuted (focus on enduring suffering)

IV. A Few Notes

***1 gospel.* Literally, good news. This line sums up the entire book of Mark, for Mark will spend the rest of the book explaining who Jesus is, why He is the Christ (lit., *anointed one*; the Hebrew word is**

Messiah), what it means for Him to be the Son of God, and why all this is Good News.

2–3 Isaiah and Malachi announced God's promises for the people of Israel at least 400 years before John the Baptizer or Jesus was

**born. (See Isaiah 40:3
and Malachi 3:1)
Sometimes God's
promises take time to
come true. These
verses strike both a
note of hopeful
expectation and of
urgent preparation. If
Jesus is coming are we**

**going to be ready in
body and soul, with
straight paths for him?
3 *desert.* The word for
desert or *wilderness*
calls to mind the way
God guided the
Hebrews after their
escape from Egypt.
Each time a person**

**enters the wilderness,
they have intense
encounters with God
that prepare them for
major growth.**

**4–5 John was not a
normal person. A true
prophet, John combined
a focused life with a
ministry to the broken**

and hurting. He offered a *baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins* so that people could leave their old ways and find a new relationship with God.

6 *Locusts* tend to be bitter, but substantive (crunchy too |

understand). *Wild honey* is sweet and because it's wild, it comes directly from God's providence and carries the intimation of dependence on the wild, untamed God who serves it.

8 Just as John prepares the way for Jesus and recognizes the power and precedence of Jesus, so too, the baptism of repentance prepares the way for the Holy Spirit, and the full and abundant life in Jesus.

9–11 God is Present in all Three Persons at this event: The voice of God the Father, the obedience of Jesus the Son, and the Spirit descending like a dove. God also speaks directly to Jesus,

**announcing His love and
pleasure in Jesus.**

V. Questions to Guide Discussion

**a. What do we learn
about Jesus' character
traits from this
passage? What kind of
person was he?**

b. What does Jesus spend time doing in this chapter? What does this tell us about what matters to Jesus?

c. Who recognizes Jesus for who he is? How does Jesus react to that knowledge?

VI. Conclusions

What we spend time on expresses our values.

Do we spend time doing things that Jesus would do?

God uses wilderness time to prepare us for growth and helping.

What have been your

“wildernesses” and how did they prepare you for growing?

People seem drawn to Jesus. Why do you think that is? What draws you to Jesus?

Schedule for “Living with Jesus” Bible Study

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
1/16	Jesus is baptized	Matthew 3:13–4:1
1/23	Jesus chooses disciples	Luke 5:1–11

1/30 Jesus feeds 5,000

Mark 6:30–44

2/6 Communion: Peter's

Confession Matthew

16:13–28

Baptism of Jesus in Parallels

Matthew	Mark	Luke
Matt. 3:13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to	Mark 1:9 At that time Jesus came	Luke 3:21 When all the people were

**the
Jordan to
be
baptized
by
John. 14
But John
tried to
deter him,
saying, “I**

**from
Nazaret
h in
Galilee
and
was
baptize
d by
John in
the**

**being
baptize
d,
Jesus
was
baptize
d too.
And as
he was
praying**

**need to be
baptized
by you,
and do
you come
to me?”**

**Matt.
3:15**

**Jesus
replied,**

**Jordan.
10 As
Jesus
was
coming
up out
of the
water,
he saw
heaven**

**,
heaven
was
opened
22 and
the
Holy
Spirit
descen
ded on**

“Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented

being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven

**■
Matt.
3:16 As
soon as
Jesus was
baptized,
he went
up out of
the water.
At that**

**11 And
a voice
came
from
heaven:
“You
are my
Son,
whom I
love;**

**: “You
are my
Son,
whom I
love;
with
you I
am
well
please**

**moment
heaven
was
opened,
and he
saw the
Spirit of
God
descendin
g like a**

**with
you I
am well
pleased
.”**

**d.”
Luke
3:23
Now
Jesus
himself
was
about
thirty
years**

**dove and
lighting on
him. 17**

**And a
voice from
heaven
said, “This
is my Son,
whom I
love; with**

**old
when
he
began
his
ministr
y. He
was
the
son, so**

**him I am
well
pleased.”**

**it was
though
t, of
Joseph
...**