



WEEK ONE

Why Is Jesus So Special?

Text: Mark 1: 9-11

Big Idea: Jesus is special. When Jesus came to Earth, He accomplished something of surpassing value on our behalf. When we understand what Jesus has done for us, we will find the peace, purpose, and sense of belonging that everyone desperately desires.

Memory verse: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:15

Weekly Ministry Items

Announcements: _____

Outreach/Ministry Reports: _____

Prayer Time: _____

Group Lesson Plan:

Paraphrase the Text: _____

Read the Text: _____

Facilitate Bible Study: _____

Discussion Questions:

Can you name someone (other than Christ) you would consider to be special? What makes them special to you?

Verses 9-11 introduce us to the ministry of Jesus. The events associated with the text are also recorded in the other three gospels. Read Matthew 3:13-17, Luke 3: 21-22 and John 1: 30-33.

What did Mark mean by "those days" in verse 9? What is the context?

Notice the reference to Nazareth. What is significant about that town? What does this teach us about God's ability to use you? Do you ever feel inadequate to be used of God? Why or why not?

What makes Jesus' baptism unique? Read 1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:14. Jesus' baptism provides us a picture of the need for deliverance from sin and all its consequences. His baptism shows us our need for repentance.

His baptism also points to His substitutionary work on our behalf. Read 2 Cor. 5:21. Jesus willingly went under the water, not because HE was a sinner, but because WE are.

What about you? If you have been baptized, why did you do it? What did it mean to you personally? Share your baptism story.

How does the text imply immersion baptism (10a)? Why is this significant? What does this tell us about our mode of baptism? (i.e. immersion vs. sprinkling) Read Romans 6:4.

What happened when Jesus came up out of the water? Read Isaiah 61:1 and Luke 4: 17-18. Do you think Jesus clearly understood His mission as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy? Imagine being a witness to these events. How would that impact you? How do these events impact you today?

Verse 11 is stunning. What does Mark say happened? The testimony of Scripture is that Jesus is indeed God's Son. What would you say to the skeptic who says that the Bible never claims Jesus as being Divine? What other verses would you use to prove His Divinity? Notice something very important. All three Persons of the Godhead are actively involved in this scenario. Can you think of other Scriptural evidences of Trinitarian theology? (examples: Gen. 1:1; 1:26; 3:22; Isaiah 6:8; 48:16; Matthew 28:19; John 17:21; 2 Cor. 13:14).

Because Jesus is the Divine Son of God Who came into this world to set captives free (Luke 4:17-18) what implications does this have for you and me? We too can become sons of God in another sense (Ephesians 1: 5-6). As we wrap up this lesson, what does it mean to you to be a child of God? How does one become a child of God? How has this Special Person changed your life?

Teaching To Obey (Matt. 28:20):

In response to God's revealed truth in your life, what action steps will you take today to obey His will? Are there:

Sins to confess? Promises to claim? Attitudes to change? Commands to obey? Examples to follow?

Our text for June 7: Mark 1: 12-13