

Let's Go
God's Good News
Mark 1:1-8
1-3-21

God's good news *about His Son* **proclaimed through His people** leads many to baptism.

Facts About John Mark

1. John (God's gift) was a common Hebrew name.
2. Mark (Shining) was a common Roman name.
3. He was a companion of Paul and Barnabas.

Acts 12:25 - "When Barnabas and Saul had finished their mission... taking with them John, also called Mark."

4. Mark was a "helper" on missionary trips. (Acts 13:5)
5. He became a close friend with Peter.

1 Peter 5:13 - "*She...sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son.*"

6. His name first appears when Peter escapes from prison and goes to the house of John Mark's mother, Mary.

Acts 12:12 - "... (Peter) went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many...were praying."

7. Mark was written to Gentiles around 60 AD.
8. Mark bailed out on a missionary journey and caused a sharp disagreement between Paul and Barnabas.

Acts 15:39 - "They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company."

9. He later restored his relationship with Paul.

2 Timothy 4:11 - "Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry."

10. Mark presents Jesus as the Servant King.

Mark 10:45 - *"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."*

I. God's good news...

Mark 1:1 – "The beginning of the gospel..."

Isaiah 40:9 – "Go on up to a high mountain...lift up your voice with strength, (you)...herald of good news...and say...'Behold your God!'"

Isaiah 52:7 – "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace... good news of happiness...of salvation...who says... 'Your God reigns.'"

Romans 1:16 – "I am not ashamed of the gospel, ...it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..."

Philippians 1:12 – "I want you to know... what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel."

1 Thessalonians 2:8 – "...we loved you so much, we shared...not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."

II. ...about His Son...

Mark 1:1 – "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

Hebrews 1:3 – "He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature..."

Revelation 1:5 – "...Jesus Christ the faithful witness...firstborn of the dead...ruler of kings on earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood..."

III. ...proclaimed through His people...

Mark 1:2-7 – “As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, ‘After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.’”

IV. ...leads many to baptism.

Mark 1:8 – “I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

John 3:30 – John said, “He must increase, and I must decrease.”

Going Deeper This Week

1. Read Mark 1:1-8 and review Sunday's message. What stands out to you?
2. Explain how Mark's friendship with Paul, Barnabas, and Peter prepared him for writing this gospel? What close Gospel friendships have you strengthened in this pandemic?
3. What was John the Baptist's main task? What character qualities did he need to accomplish this? What is your main task in life?
4. In what ways do you think you need to be more like John the Baptist?
5. What was the purpose of water baptism? (Matthew 28:18-20) What does it mean to be baptized with the Holy Spirit? (Acts 1:8, Galatians 5:22-24, John 3:30) How often do you ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit?
6. Pray the truths of Mark 1:1-8 for yourself and for one another.