**The Gospel of Mark Series March 10, 2024**

**Mark 1:1-8 – Preparing the Way**

Preparation

* **Declaration**

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

* **Prophecy**

 Mark 1:2–3
2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “Behold, I send My messenger ahead of You, Who will prepare Your way; 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make ready the way of the Lord, Make His paths straight.’ ”

* **Messenger**

 Mark 1:4a, 6
4 John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness…
6 John was clothed with camel’s hair and *wore* a leather belt around his waist, and his diet was locusts and wild honey.

Message

* **Baptism**
* **Repentance**
* **Forgiveness of sins**

 Mark 1:4
John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

* **Baptism of Holy Spirit**

 Mark 1:7–8
7 And he was preaching, and saying, “After me One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to stoop down and untie the thong of His sandals. 8 I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Recipients

* People of **Judea**
* People of **Jerusalem**

 Mark 1:5
And all the country of Judea was going out to him, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Response

* **Baptism**
* **Confession of sins**

 Mark 1:5
And all the country of Judea was going out to him, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

**What does this mean for me?**

Last week we read for breadth

This week we want to read for depth

* Commit to read through Mark 1 every day this week
	+ It will take 8 – 10 minutes each day
	+ Note key words – “immediately” for example

Have you truly repented of your sins?

* Are you:
	+ Daily confessing your sins to Jesus?
	+ Daily making a rock-solid commitment to cease the
	sinful behavior?
	+ Asking someone to hold you accountable?

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