

These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

Discussion Questions

Date: January 14, 2018

Mark 1:1-8

1. Mark's gospel begins with a declaration that Jesus is the Son of God. This is the primary theme throughout the book of Mark. How have you made Jesus, the Messiah, the primary theme of your life? What are obstacles in your life that keep Jesus from being primary?
2. Part of Mark's gospel presentation includes quoting from Isaiah. He didn't assume that his readers knew the backstory about the promised Messiah. What "backstory" might we need to share with non-believers in our post-Christian culture before we can even get to the gospel?
3. The occasion for the writing of Mark's gospel may have been the persecution of the church under Nero. How are you looking for opportunities or occasions to share the gospel with others in your own life? Where do you most often share the gospel?
4. Relationships should be fertile ground for evangelism. What keeps you from sharing the gospel with your friends, relatives, and neighbors? How can your LifeGroup pray specifically for you to share the gospel more?
5. In the church, we tend to talk about John the Baptist as a hero of the faith. Read John 3:25-30. What did John sacrifice to follow Jesus?
6. John preached in the wilderness as a prophet. He boldly declared the Word of the Lord. In what ways does our world need to be confronted with the bold Word of the Lord? How should we balance bold proclamations with tender love and care?
7. Family verse: Read and memorize John 3:30. Discuss ways that Jesus might increase in your own lives.