



For A Really Messed Up World

The Gospel of Mark

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Get Ready to Get Used

Message # 2

M E S S A G E N O T E S

The Importance of Preparation

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the Prophets:

*“ Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,
Who will prepare Your way before You.”*

3 “ The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

*‘ Prepare the way of the LORD;
Make His paths straight.’”*

4 John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 5 Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

6 Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And he preached, saying, “There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. 8 I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

9 It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. 11 Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

12 Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. 13 And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him. Mark 1:1-13 NKJV

HOW GOD PREPARES US

1. _____ - We become aware of God's sovereign plan and _____ in it.

2. _____ - God uses this time to develop our _____ and our _____

How long does this phase last? _____

3. _____ - Our first taste of ministry usually under the _____ of another person

The key to this phase is learning _____

4. _____

3 Parts of this phase:

- 1) An act of _____ to take the next step with God
- 2) _____ with the people to whom you will minister
- 3) A short-term _____ from God

5. _____ (a time of _____) – the time when God produces _____ in us (things like strength, wisdom, skill, leadership, vision, etc.)

2 Things God often does during this phase. We experience:

- 1) A time of _____
- 2) A time of _____

God uses ISOLATION to _____ from dependency on anything or anyone except Him.

God uses CONFLICT to teach us to _____ that we could never handle before.

LIFE APPLICATIONS

1. God has a sovereign plan (the big picture) for the world which includes a _____ for me
2. God is orchestrating His plan _____ of every day (every up, every down, every circumstance, etc.) to prepare me for increasing _____
3. God is far more interested in developing _____ (i.e., my character) than _____
4. When the difficulty comes, and you feel alone and in conflict, _____! You're being prepared to go to the next level