

Studies in Mark
Lesson Two: First Things First (Mk. 1:1-45)

Warm-Up: *When is flexibility most needed in meeting the challenges of our spiritual priorities? What dangers are posed by too much flexibility?*

1. What was the purpose of John's ministry? By what personal characteristics is John known as a result of the way he carried out his work? Which of these is most needed in God's service today? (Mk. 1:1-8).

2. Upon what conditions was John's baptism predicated? (Mk. 1:4-5; Acts 19:4).

3. How are the three persons of the Godhead distinguished from one another in the baptism of Jesus? (Mk. 1:9-11).

4. How long did Jesus battle temptation? (Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:13). How can we better prepare for our next round of temptation? (1 Pet. 5:8-10; Eph. 6:10-11).

5. What role did angels serve in the ministry of Jesus? (Mk. 1:13; Lk. 22:43 cf. Hb. 1:14; 13:2).

6. What indispensable trait of discipleship is seen in the four fishermen as they accepted the call to follow Jesus? (Mk. 1:14-20; 10:28).

7. Why were the multitudes amazed at the teaching of Christ? (Mk. 1:22, 27; Jn. 7:46).

8. For what possible reasons would Jesus have been reluctant for demons to reveal His true identity? (Mk. 1:24-25, 34).

9. How does Mark describe the popularity of Christ during His earthly ministry? (Mk. 1:28, 32-33; 2:2; 3:20; 6:31). What effect did Jesus' popularity have on the daily workings of His ministry? (Mk. 1:35-38, 45).