

Adult Bible Study

Jan 10, 2021

Opening Prayer

When the mail comes, what do you open first? What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten?

Background: The Messenger foretold in Isaiah baptizes the Messiah, beginning a new chapter in God's plan.

Mark 1:1-11

1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **2** As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; **3** the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," " **4** John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. **6** Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. **7** He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. **8** I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." **9** In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **10** And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. **11** And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Questions

1. Why is John's message so popular?
2. Hearing John's message (vv. 7-8), what type of person might his followers be looking for?
3. What do you think the dove and the voice meant to Jesus as he came out of the water?
4. How would this prepare him for His desert time? The temptations?



Reflection

1. What from your life illustrates what it means to repent?
2. Who and/or what prepared you for the “way of the Lord”?
3. Read vs. 11. What would you like to hear God say to you?

Closing Prayer

Thoughts? Ideas? Questions? Discussion? Rick Papin. macelff@gmail.com

Many of the ideas and questions used in these bible studies come from Serendipity Bible for Groups, Third Edition, NIV. (1998)