

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 9, Day 1

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for Your many blessings. Please help me to ignore all of the forces pulling me away from You today as I focus on hearing from You and study Your Word.

Mark 1:9-11 (NKJV)

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."

As you read the following verses, answer the following questions and then compare your answers with those that follow.

Who is in the text?
What is happening in the text?
When does the story take place?
Where does the story take place?
Why is this story in the Bible?
How does this story relate to me and my life?

Who: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, John the Baptist
What: Jesus is being baptized by John the Baptist.
When: Jesus is about 30 years old and at the beginning of His earthly ministry.
Where: The Jordan River
Why: (We will cover this in detail on day four of the study this week.)
How: (This answer should be personal to each individual.)

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank You for sending Your Son to live as a man on this earth and in the process give us a perfect example of how we should live our lives. Thank you for this Re.Mark.Able story in which I can learn so much more about You and Your plan for us.

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 9, Day 2

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for all of the baptisms that occurred at River Valley this past Sunday. Be with me today as I study Your Word and learn more about baptism so that I can understand it fully and tell others how they can be saved and baptized in Your name.

In week one of our Re.Mark.Able study we studied the events that led to John the Baptist baptizing Jesus. You may want to review that week in preparation for today's study. If you did not do week one of the study, the verses below are those that were covered and should help you to have the background verses.

Mark 1:1-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

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."*

In week one of our Re.Mark.Able study we learned that John the Baptist was paving the way for Jesus. He was preaching the Word of God to all who would listen. John the Baptist was also baptizing believers in preparation of Jesus Christ. John was baptizing believers as a symbol of their confession of sin and their desire to prepare themselves for the coming of the Messiah. He baptized those who desired to express their belief in the coming Messiah and their desire to live righteous lives.

Mark 1:9 (NKJV)

9 *It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan.*

Jesus coming from Nazareth to Galilee was no simple task. It was at least a fifty mile round trip. The journey was done on foot as well so it took several days. What lengths did you go to get baptized? How important was it to you to be baptized after you accepted Christ as your Savior? Did you make it a priority or put it off?

Prayer: Lord, thank You for Your divine plan and the Re.Mark.Able plan you have for my life. Help me to follow You wherever You lead me.

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 9, Day 3

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank You this story of Jesus Christ humbling Himself in baptism as an example for me to follow. Thank You also for yet another example in Your word that shows that Your Son lived a sinless life on earth so that we could have a role model to follow and strive to be more like You.

Mark 1:9 (NKJV)

9 *It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan.*

This was the beginning of Jesus' three year ministry. He was thirty years old. That means that God used the first thirty years of His Son's life to prepare Him for His ministry. Jesus experienced hunger, physical hurt, emotional pain, and all of the many other earthly issues. Even though Jesus had to face all of the difficulties that man faces, He did it without sinning.

Why do you think God planned for Jesus to be thirty years old before He allowed the prophecy of Malachi and Isaiah to be fulfilled?

Does it bring you comfort in knowing that Jesus lived His life as a human and truly does understand when we cry out to Him in pain, suffering and even praise?

The baptism of Jesus Christ was much different than all of the other baptisms John performed. Jesus was without sin. Although He lived a life on earth as a man; He was not a man and did not NEED to be baptized. As we studied before, John was baptizing followers who wanted to repent of sin and dedicate themselves to following God.

So, if Jesus was without sin, why was He baptized? Here are four reasons, can you think of any other reasons?

1. To begin His mission to bring the message of salvation to all people;
2. To show support for John's ministry;
3. To identify with our humanness and sin;
4. To give us an example to follow.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word and guidance in my life. Please be with me as I continue to study Your Word and as I strive to do Your will.

Re.Mark.Able Study
Week 9, Day 4

Prayer: Father, please be with me today as I continue to study Your Word. Help, me to hear from You and to make today count in Your Kingdom.

Mark 1:10-11 (NKJV)

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."

In these two verses we see the Trinity. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are all present for this occasion. God is both one and three. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are one God, but they are distinct Persons in the Godhead. The one explanation I can think of to use to explain the Trinity is us as people. We are one person with many different roles. Each of us is one person who is called to play many different roles. We can be a parent, spouse, and teacher all at the same time.

In the Trinity, God the Father created the earth and is all knowing and all powerful. God the Son was born, crucified, and arose so that we can be in relationship with God the Father. God the Holy Spirit comes into us when we become believers and is the voice of God the Father in our lives. For more detail about the Trinity, please read the book of 1 John.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for being all things to all people. Thank you for being all that I will ever need.

Re.Mark.Able Study

Week 9, Day 5

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help me to gain insight into Your Word and how I can apply it to my life. Help me to seek You and understanding of Your will in my life.

Mark 1:9-11 (NKJV)

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."

Matthew 3:13-17 New King James Version (NKJV)

13 *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"*

15 *But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.*

16 *When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*

Please spend time today looking at the two accounts of the same event above. How are the two stories the same? How are they different? What can you learn by studying the same story written by two different authors?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You so much for this Re.Mark.Able journey that You are taking me on. You truly are a remarkable God with a remarkable plan for each of us.

