

John the Baptist Prepares the Way - Mark 1:1-8

Topics: Gospel, Humility, Preparation, Prophecy, Repentance, Witnessing

Open It

- * 1. How would you prepare for a home visit from your boss or another important person?
- 2. Why is it important to prepare for the coming of an influential person?
- 3. What attitudes do most ordinary people have about “very important persons”?

Explore It

- 4. What do Mark’s first words tell us about his Gospel? (1:1)
- 5. Who was John the Baptist? (1:2-3)
- * 6. Who sent the messenger? Why? (1:2-3)
- 7. How was Isaiah’s prophecy fulfilled? (1:4)
- * 8. What were the two aspects of John’s ministry? (1:4)
- 9. What reasons to be baptized did John give the people? (1:4)
- 10. What had to happen before John could baptize a person? (1:5)
- 11. When John said, “After me will come one more powerful than I,” to whom was he referring? (1:7)
- 12. What was John’s attitude toward Jesus? (1:7)
- * 13. What was the theme of John’s message? (1:7-8)
- 14. How did Jesus’ baptism differ from John’s? (1:8)

Get It

- 15. What is your reaction to the fact that Isaiah’s prophecy was fulfilled?
- 16. In what ways can we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us?
- 17. How can Jesus’ gift of the Holy Spirit make a difference in our lives?
- * 18. What does the message of Jesus offer to people?
- 19. What usually prevents us from being Christ’s witnesses?
- 20. How can a person’s witness reflect humility and respect for Jesus?
- 21. How can we ensure that our lives focus attention on Christ, and not on ourselves?
- * 22. In what ways can you prepare others for Christ?

Apply It

- * 23. What step could you take this week toward becoming a better witness for Christ?
- 24. With whom can you share God’s promise of forgiveness of sins? How?
- 25. How can you encourage other Christians to be witnesses for Christ?