

Witness: Lesson 1: Prepare
(September 10 sermon)

Watch the *Prepare* video, found at: resonateglobalmission.org/witnessvideos

Icebreaker: What is your earliest memory of knowing God?

Read: Mark 1:9-15

Discussion Questions:

- Jesus was baptized around the age of 30. What do you think he was learning about this context before the start of his public ministry?
- How is Jesus' baptism part of his preparation for ministry? What did Jesus receive?
- After Jesus endured temptation, he proclaimed the good news of God. What do you think might have been good news to those who were listening?
- What has been, or would be, good news in your community (family/neighborhood/workplace) today?
- How has God been preparing you to receive the good news of the gospel?
- How has God been preparing you to share the good news?
- The word *gospel* comes from the Old English *god* meaning *good*, and *spel*, meaning *news, a story*. Being a gospel witness means sharing the good news that Jesus proclaimed in his ministry. What good news does Jesus bring in these passages?
 - Matthew 8:1-3
 - Matthew 9:1-8
 - Matthew 9:35-36
 - Matthew 19:13-15
 - Matthew 20:29-34
- Good news in your own life is a reflection of the **kingdom of God**. In Mark 4, Jesus describes the kingdom of God using parables. In Luke 10, Jesus tells his followers that they are to proclaim that the kingdom of God is near. The kingdom of God is reflected in how God is working in our own lives, and also how God is working throughout the world—redeeming the lost, healing the sick, restoring the broken, reconciling the divided. Finish these sentences:
 - Recently, I've seen God blessing my community ...
 - I sense God is at work in our community ...
 - God is slowing shaping our community ...

Prepare:

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Mark 1:9-15

Name: _____

Preparation: _____ is the Sign of _____.

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. -Mark 1:9

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. -Matthew 28:19

_____ Gives _____.

And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." -Mark 1:11

The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." -Romans 8:15

Preparation: _____ and _____ Build _____.

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. -John 1:12-13

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. -Acts 13:2-3

And _____!

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" -Mark 1:14-15

Belong ___ Trust ___ Fasting ___ Confirm(ation) ___ Baptism ___