

# MARK

Mark Wk.2  
Mk. 1:6-13

## General:

- Pastor Chip opened with a picture that looked like an optical illusion, but it wasn't. Have you ever been convinced something was "off" or wrong, only to later realize your perspective was mistaken? What changed?
- Why do you think Jesus' teachings or ways sometimes feel counterintuitive or backward to us?
- In this passage, strength shows up as humility, sonship leads to wilderness, affirmation precedes suffering. Why do you think Jesus often destabilizes our lives in ways that we don't expect?
- John the Baptist's clothing echoes Elijah (2 Kings 1:8), signaling fulfillment. What does the connection between John and Elijah teach us about how long God's plans can unfold?
- John the Baptist continually points to "the one who comes after me." If someone listened to your words or observed your life, who or what would they say you point people toward?
- When Jesus comes up out of the water, heaven is "torn open," creating a heaven-meets-earth moment. Have you experienced moments where God's presence felt especially near? What marked it?
- Pastor Chip pointed out how verses 8-11 reveal Father, Son, and Spirit together. How does seeing the Trinity in action here shape the way you understand who God is?
- Why do you think testing or wilderness often follows divine clarity or calling?
- Jesus was driven into the wilderness by the Spirit, not the enemy or a random occurrence. How does it change your view of hardship if some wilderness seasons are Spirit-led?
- What does it mean for us that Jesus has faced temptation and wilderness Himself?

**Take Home 1:** Heaven is irrupting into the world, and the long-awaited promises are being fulfilled amidst spiritual opposition (Mk. 1:13)

- What makes it hard for you to believe that God is actively working in your life, even in resistance or hardship?
- If heaven has broken into the world through Jesus, where might you still be living as if you are on your own?

**Take Home 2:** Our being precede our doing, because identity influences destiny (Mk. 1:11)

- What do you tend to rely on to define your worth? (Performance? Productivity? Approval? Achievement?)
- Pastor Chip said: "Identity precedes action, performance, vocation, and ministry". When your performance falters, what happens to your sense of identity?
- Where are you tempted to prove something instead of receive what God has already declared over you?

**Take Home 3:** Realizing the importance of being spirit led in our lives (Mk. 1:10, 12)

- What do you think it means practically to be Spirit-led in daily life?
- Where do you see the Spirit moving in your life right now?
- "The Holy Spirit is mission-oriented, not comfort-oriented". What do you think it would look like for you to be a part of God's grand mission?