

JESUS ON THE MOVE

Mark 1

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What is the definition of “gospel”?
- What events mark the beginning of Jesus’ earthly ministry?

The Gospel of Mark opens with Old Testament prophecy and the appearance of John the Baptist and then draws a direct line from these Messianic prophecies to the one person who fulfills them, Jesus Christ. Adverbs like “immediately” and “at once” quickly move us to the launch of Jesus’ earthly ministry. The stories of his Baptism, testing in the wilderness, miracles, and teaching reveal power and authority that can only belong to the true Son of God. Studying these events gives us assurance in our own times of testing by training our minds and hearts to see the power and authority of Christ moving in our world today.

Listen: [*Jesus on the Move*](#)

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- Some think that Mark’s Gospel appeared first as a dramatic piece presented orally before it was ever written down. Try this experiment: Read Mark 1:1-15, and then listen to a [dramatized reading](#) of the same passage. How does the delivery contribute to your comprehension of the passage? What are the benefits and drawbacks of reading and listening?
- In segment 2, guest Gary Burge notes that “...Every godly man or woman is going to go through the wilderness if he or she is going to discover what is truly in their hearts. In other words, the wilderness is there for testing—it is there to locate what is central to your faith and your identity.” Can you identify a time of wilderness testing in your life? What was it like? How did it shape your faith and identity?
- The hosts remind us of three truths about the wilderness we learn from other parts of scripture: 1. Jesus brings peace in his wake (even in the wilderness); 2. God *led* the Israelites through the wilderness; and 3. God was *with* the Israelites in the wilderness. Reflect on the wilderness time you identified above. Can you see those truths in your own situation? How does Jesus’ time in the wilderness give you hope for your own seasons of wilderness and testing?
- Over and over Mark records how the authority of Christ, revealed in his teaching and miracles, shocked the people. How can we remind ourselves of Jesus’ power and authority in our lives today?

Related Passages

- **Isaiah 40:3**
- **Matthew 3:13-4:17**

- **Luke 3:21-4:13**
- **Deuteronomy 18:14-19**
- **Deuteronomy 6-10**

Conclusion

As he closes the episode, Scott Hoeszee says, “Mark reveals Jesus on the move; and thanks be to God, we know that by his Spirit this same Jesus is powerfully on the move in the Church today as well...” Discuss or journal how you see Jesus moving in and through the Church today. Close your study by in prayer. Give thanks for the wilderness truths you’ve experienced in your life and pray for eyes to see the power and authority of Jesus on the move today.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/jesus-on-the-move>

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