

## **The Gospel of Mark Message Series**

Discussion Guide based on the December 13, 2009 message,  
*"Water to Wilderness" – Mark 1:9-13*

Big Idea: Grasp the depth to which Jesus is willing to go out of His love for you.

### **Leading the Session Helps/Discussion Questions**

- ❖ In verse 9, Jesus was baptized? What does the word "baptize" mean? (to immerse or dip)  
What is the symbolism present in baptism?
  - Cleansing from sin
  - Death to old way of life and beginning of new
  - Picture of Jesus death, burial, and resurrection
- ❖ So why do Baptists dunk?
- ❖ Why was Jesus baptized?
  - Marked the beginning of His public ministry.
  - He symbolically entered into His redemptive mission by the symbolic act.
  - Marked the beginning of His mission.
  - He symbolically placed Himself among the guilty.
- ❖ What is the significance of the previously mentioned reasons for Jesus' baptism?
- ❖ In verses 10-11, the Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove. What was the significance of that?
  - God acknowledged that Jesus was competent to the task.
  - The Trinity began to take on their roles in the redemptive plan.
- ❖ In verse 11, God said He was pleased with Jesus. How can God be pleased with us? (If we listen to His Son. Matthew 17:5 – the transfiguration.)
- ❖ In verses 13-14, Jesus went into the desert to be tempted by Satan. What was the significance of that? (The battle was on. And Jesus came out the victor then, at the resurrection, and will be the victor on the final judgment day.)
- ❖ Why is Jesus able to identify with us? (He faced temptation and trials, too.)
- ❖ Why are there "kick the can" Christians?

### **Application**

- ❖ Because of Jesus, we can live a victorious life. Larry said that there are a lot of "kick the can" Christians. Claim the promise this week that you can live victoriously because of Jesus.
- ❖ Where are you in your outlook of your faith? Are you feeling grateful or slighted? Are you feeling victorious or beaten down? Praise God on your mountain or out of the valley in your personal quiet time this week.
- ❖ What do you think God is leading you to do? Resolve to begin taking steps toward being obedient.