

Sermon Notes – September 7, 2014
“Repent and Believe the Good News!”
Mark 1:1-15
Pastor Bill Hoffman

Mark’s opening line leaves no doubt that “the gospel about Jesus” is the subject of his writing. List everything that verses 1-15 say or imply about Jesus.

How does Mark connect the good news about Jesus with God’s revelation to his people in the past?

What do these lines tell us about the baptism of Jesus administered by John?

- Since Jesus was without sin, he did not need to be baptized for the forgiveness of sins, but rather to identify with sinful human beings.
- Note the roles of the Father and the Spirit in Jesus’ baptism. What does this imply about what God is like?

Verse 15. Put yourself in the shoes of a) a Jewish resident of Galilee and b) a local government official of the Roman empire hearing Jesus’ announcement that Israel’s God was finally coming to rule as king.

- Would you believe Jesus?
- Would his words have sounded to you like good news?

To repent means to turn around, to change direction. Notice how here, as often in the gospels, "repent" and "believe" go together.

- What might this imply about the relationship between growing in faith and changing?