

10/25/26 Sermon

God's Desire for H&N in Our 11th Year

Scripture: Mark 1:1–8 (NIV)

¹ The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”—

³ “a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

1. Prepare the Way for the Lord

Mark 1:2–4

- The beginning of the Good News started with the coming of John the Baptist.
- It is the same with us and our VIPs. Before your VIPs encounter Jesus Christ, it starts with you.
- **The way they see you is the way they see Jesus.**
- What do your words and actions speak or reveal about Jesus to your VIPs?
- Go all out when you have VIPs visiting your HC. Don’t be cheap.
- Make their hearts ready to meet Jesus.

2. Be Urgent About Saving Souls for the Lord

Mark 1:4–5

- **Be ready, stay ready, so that you don’t have to get ready.**
- Our life mission is to share the gospel and bring others to Christ, not just take classes and build ourselves up.
- Bring your VIPs. They need Christ more than you think.

3. Focus on Spiritual Matters

Mark 1:6

- John the Baptist wore camel’s hair and ate locusts and wild honey. He didn’t care about worldly things; he focused on the kingdom.
- A lot of us have one foot out. We are lukewarm (Revelation 3:15–16).

- A lot of us have instability in our lives because we are double-minded. Our loyalties are divided (James 1:8).
- In Greek, being double-minded means being “two-souled.” Unstable means “unsettled.”
- The opposite is also true: a single-minded person is stable in all of their ways.
- **Be single-minded for Jesus Christ.**

4. Point to Jesus Christ

Mark 1:7–8

- Through every triumph, miracle, trial, and tribulation, point to Jesus Christ.

In our 11th year, let's be a church that brings pure joy and pleases the heart of our Heavenly Father.

QUESTION FOR REFLECTION

Which one of these is God asking you to commit to?