

## Book of Mark- FAMILY WORSHIP



Week 1    K-5    8:30/11:00

### “Good News! Point the Way and Spread the Word”

**Lesson focus:** This lesson looks at John the Baptist and his role as God’s messenger pointing to Jesus. John brought the good news (Gospel!) that God was fulfilling His promise to send a savior. John bore some similarities to the great Old Testament prophet Elijah, with his wild elements. He also reflected important connections to Christ’s life and ministry, with his desert preaching a “staging area” of sorts for Jesus. John baptized people in the Jordan river, which was also significant to the story of Israel. This lesson emphasizes how John pointed the way to Christ, and we can do the same.

**Passage to study:** Mark 1:1-8

**Memory Verse:** He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” Mark 16:15

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## Curious Question

Ask your class these curious questions and discuss  
How do you get information about things around you?  
Do you read or watch the news?  
How does it make you feel?

## Memory Verse Activity

**Supplies:** paper; markers; stopwatch (optional)

### Instructions:

- Form two groups of kids. If you have a large number of kids, you may make more than two teams.
- Distribute a piece of paper and marker to each group. Direct each group to sit in a circle and designate a team leader.
- Each team leader will begin the game by printing the first word of the memory verse on a piece of paper. They will pass the paper to the person sitting to their right. This person will print the next word of the verse and pass it on. This will continue with each player.
- If a player doesn't know the word, he can skip his turn and pass the paper to the next player. He will say, "Keep going!" as he passes it on.
- Play will continue until a team finishes the verse.
- If your group thrives on friendly competition, consider using a stopwatch to track the time each team takes to complete the verse.

## Small Group Discussion

Give each student a Bible. Read Mark 1:1-8. Discuss the verses as you are reading them making sure to ask the kids if they understand things. This lesson covers John the Baptist, looking at who he was, what message God gave him, and his role in announcing the coming Messiah. Point out key elements to children, while encouraging them to also proclaim and point the way to Christ.

Discuss the following questions.

- What was John the Baptist proclaiming?
- Who did John the Baptist point people to? Why?
- How can you point others to Jesus?
- What are some things we can do to remember His importance and share that with those around us?

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## Prayer Time

Take some time to share prayer requests. Then lead the kids in prayer. Pray a prayer thanking God for sending us Jesus. Ask for help as we serve as messengers and announcers proclaiming the good news of Christ's coming.

## Game

Sandal relay: John declared that he was unworthy to untie the strap of Christ's sandal. Allow students to form lines and race relay-style back and forth across a room, tying a shoelace at one end of the play area.

## Craft

You will need: • toilet paper tube (1 per child) • Markers, stickers, or other decorating materials  
• Tape • Scissors • Bells • streamers and pipe cleaners

Procedure:

1. Decorate the tube with stickers, markers, and a caption that reads "Good News Jesus is Coming"
2. Attach streamers, and jingle bells with pipe cleaners for flair and noise effect.
3. Secure additional decorations with tape or glue as desired. You can shake the "announcer" or use it as a megaphone by speaking into it. Have fun!