

What is each one doing? How are they working in unison?

Francis also emphasized the uniqueness of the gospel, the good news from God on a completely different level from what we often describe as good. **In what way did he describe the good news?**

[Note: For further study on euangelion, see the Go Deeper Section 2 at the end of the session.]

Reading this opening passage, what do you expect from Jesus? What kinds of things do you anticipate from him as Mark's Gospel goes forward?

Read Mark 1:12–13.

After being baptized, Jesus departed from John. The text says that “the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.” So he went, and there he experienced forty days of hunger and temptation. Mark doesn't give a lot of details.

What do you think Mark wanted to communicate with this short summary of Jesus's experience in the wilderness?

(Jesus's temptation helped prepare him for the work God had for him to do.)

Looking back at your life, do you see evidence of God using challenging times to prepare you for something he had for you to do in the future? If so, share that with the group.

[Note: For further study on ekballo, see the Go Deeper Section 3 at the end of this session.]

Spend a couple of minutes in prayer, asking God to teach you more about Jesus as the Son of God through studying the Gospel of Mark.
