

**The Gospel of Mark; Jesus: Serving, Sovereign Savior**  
**Mark 1:1-11 – Validating Voices**

**Intro:** Your life hinges on many things, but none so important as whether you believe in the truth of who Jesus is and that it is what drives you forward in the faith.

Mark's Gospel presents Jesus as the sovereign, serving Savior and introduces his Gospel with validating voices.

**I. The Voice of \_\_\_\_\_ – Mark 1:1-3**

Mark began his Gospel with the foundation of the Scriptures.

A. Malachi 3:1

B. Isaiah 40:3

**II. The Voice of \_\_\_\_\_ – Mark 1:4-8**  
**(John the Baptist)**

A. How to Be Prepared?

B. Why to Be Prepared?

Everything hinges on their being prepared to welcome Christ and the life-change that He brings through the baptism that He provides.

**III. The Voice of \_\_\_\_\_ – Mark 1:9-11**

*The Father made it known that His Son. Jesus is the one to*

\_\_\_\_\_, to place your \_\_\_\_\_ in, to

*listen to and obey, to make the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life.*

God the Father was making it known that Jesus is the “true and better” fulfillment of all who had come before.

**Conclusion:** Winning the Superbowl hinges on which team has the better game plan and executes it. More importantly, everything in your life hinges on whether or not you listen to the validating voices, including the voice of Jesus (Mark 1:15, 10:45)

## Small Group Questions

1. Share a time when you listened to a “voice” that gave bad advice. What happened? What lessons were learned?
2. Mark began his Gospel with the prophetic voices from the past (a Scriptural foundation). Why was this important? What is a good way to apply this to our lives?
3. Mark 1:4-7 - What was the role and appearance of John the Baptist?
4. The main content of John’s message was preparation for Christ through repentance, baptism, and forgiveness of sins. What hinged on whether or not people believed John’s message (Mark 1:8)?
5. What does it mean to repent? What is implied in these verses (See Matthew 3:8-10. Luke 3:10-14).
6. What is the importance of baptism with water? What is the importance of baptism with the Holy Spirit?
7. What did God the Father validate concerning Jesus as he was being baptized? Why is this significant? What hinges on whether or not Jesus is the Son of God?
8. How is God calling you to think differently?
9. What is God calling you to do as you go about your daily life?