**Gal. 4:4-6 “**But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, *“Abba*, Father.”

***EYES ON JESUS - A study of the Gospel of Mark***

**Hebrews 12:1-2**

**1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,

**2** **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God

Introduction to Mark:

* Believed to have been written by “John Mark” [Mark], a cousin of Barnabas, an assistant to Paul, and one who walked closely with Peter.
* This gospel is unique because it emphasizes Jesus’ actions more than His teaching.
* Many believe it is the first gospel written.
* The shortest of all the gospels.
* Mark does not begin with a long genealogy nor does it start with Jesus being born and the Word becoming flesh like the other gospels.

**Mark 1:1-15**

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 withwater, but he will baptize you withthe Holy Spirit.”

**9**At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **10**Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. **11**And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

**12**At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, **13**and he was in the wilderness forty days, being temptedby Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

**14**After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. **15**“The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Verses 1-3

**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.

**John the Baptist** – Introduced here as: “*Messenger*”, “*Voice in the Wilderness”*

* Son of Zechariah the Priest and Elizabeth
* Filled with the Holy Spirit within the womb (Luke 1:15)
* Clothed in camel hair, leather belt, eating locusts and honey.
* Very popular, powerful preacher.
* Preached repentance and baptized thousands
* Possibly a sectarian Jewish separatist.

Verses 7-8

**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 withwater, but he will baptize you withthe Holy Spirit.”

**John 3:30** “He must increase, but I *must* decrease.”

**Luke 7:27-28**

**27**This is the one about whom it is written: “‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ **28**I tell you, among those born of women there is *no one greater than John;*

**Matt 3:13-15** “Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

15Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

*Verses 9-12*

**9**At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **10**Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. **11**And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

**v. 12**“At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, **13**and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.”

**Matt 4:1-11**

**4**Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2**After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3**The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

**4**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matt+4%3A1-11&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23214b)]”

**5**Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. **6**“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“‘He will command his angels concerning you,
    and they will lift you up in their hands,
    so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’”

**7**Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **8**Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9**“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

**10**Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.” **11**Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

**1 John 2:16** For everything in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--comes not from the Father but from the world.

Lust of the Flesh

The Lust of the

The Pride of Life

**James 4:7** (NIV) Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

# **1 Corinthians 10:13**

**13**No temptationhas overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

**Instead of *hiding from Him in shame*, *go to him in confidence*, It’s the only way you will be able to find the grace to help you in times of need.**

**Heb 4:15-16**

**15For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 16Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**