

Instructions:

1. Read this passage again
2. Read the other accounts of John the Baptist from the other Gospels in Matthew 3, Luke 3, and John 1.
3. Reflect on the following questions:
 - How does this account of John the Baptist and Jesus differ from the other Gospels? What does that tell you about Mark's intended tone, audience, and purpose for this Gospel?

 - Think about John Baptist finally meeting the God He's dedicated his life to preaching about face to face. How do you think you would react? Does how you think you'd react reveal anything about yourself that you need to think and pray about?

 - Mark wrote this Gospel to Gentile Romans who would respond differently to the other audiences that the other Gospels addressed. How does your faith background or culture influence the way you see and respond to Jesus? Are you aware of potential blind spots, beliefs, or practices that you may have missed out on growing up in a certain tradition? How do you think you could come to know Jesus more holistically?