Our approach each week will be **REAP** (read, explain, apply, personalize). In this series, however, we won’t wait to document the ‘apply’ and ‘personalize’ until the end of the lesson. As we see them, we’ll capture them.

**Read: Mark 1**

**Explain: Mark 1:2 →**

Bible study is asking and answering questions about the text. Let’s ask some questions.

**Are there any literary/structural observations?**

**Mark** makes a reference to an Old Testament book. Whenever a New Testament author does this, we want to go back and see the context and purpose of that reference.

**What do the words mean?**

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**John the Baptist Prepares the Way**

1. **The beginning** [G746: ἀρχή; arche; 1. (properly abstract) a commencement 2. (concretely) chief (in various applications of order, time, place, or rank); occurs in 1:1; 10:6; 13:8; 13:19] of the gospel [G2098: εὐαγγέλιον; euaggelion; 1. (properly) a good message 2. (specially) the good news of redemption through Jesus (i.e. the gospel of Jesus) 3. (also called) the good news; occurs in 1:1; 1:14; 1:15; 8:35; 10:29; 13:10; 14:9; 16:15] of Jesus [G2424: Ἰησοῦς; Iesous; 1. Jesus (i.e. Jehoshua), the name of our Lord and two (three) other Israelites; occurs 79 times in Mark] Christ [G5547: Χριστός; Christos; 1. (literally) Anointed 2. (transliterated) "Christ" 3. (properly) the Messiah, the Anointed One of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob 4. (by function) the (kinsman) Redeemer, the Saviour 5. (by identity) Jesus, Yeshua; occurs in 1:1; 8:29; 9:41; 12:35; 13:21; 14:61; 15:32], the Son [G2268: Ἡσαίας; Hesaias; 1. Hesaias (i.e. Jeshajah), an Israelite; occurs in 1:2; 7:6] of God [G2316: θεός; theos; 1. a deity 2. (figuratively) a magistrate 3. (by Hebraism) very; occurs 42 times in Mark].

“Behold [G2400: ἴδον; idou; 2nd singular 2nd aorist imperative middle; 1. (used as imperative) lo!; occurs in 1:2; 4:3; 10:28; 10:33; 13:21; 14:42], I send [G492: ἀποστέλλω; apostello; 1st singular present indicative active; 1. set apart 2. (by implication) to send out (properly, on a mission); occurs 20 times in Mark] my [G1473: ἔγνω; ego; 1. (emphatically, of the first person) I; occurs 104 times in Mark] messenger [G32: ἀγγέλος; aggelos; 1. a messenger 2. (especially) an "angel" of God 3. (of evil, Satan) a demon 4. (by implication) a person carrying forth a message from God, i.e. a servant (a disciple, pastor, elder, prophet, etc.) 5. (also, by implication) a thing or event carrying forth a message from God, i.e. a hardship (pestilence, wind, etc.), or an animal (donkey, locusts, etc.); occurs in 1:2; 1:13; 8:38; 12:25; 13:27; 13:32] before [G4253: προ; pro; 1. "fore", i.e. in front of, prior to 2. (figuratively) superior to; occurs in 1:2] your [G4771: οὗ; su; 1. thou; occurs 68 times in Mark] will prepare [G2680: κατασκεύαζω; kataskeuazo; 3rd singular future indicative active; 1. to prepare thoroughly 2. (by implication) to construct, create; occurs in 1:2] you [G4771: οὗ; su] the [G3588: ὁ; ho; 1. the; occurs 70 times in Mark] wilderness [G2048: ἔρημος; eremos; 1. lonesome 2. (by implication) waste; occurs in 1:3; 1:4; 1:12; 1:13; 1:35; 1:45; 6:31; 6:32; 6:35]:

Prepare [G2090: ἑτοιμάζω; hetoimazo; 2nd plural aorist imperative active; 1. to prepare; occurs in 1:3; 10:40; 14:12; 14:15; 14:16] the [G3588: ὁ; ho; 1. the; occurs 70 times in Mark] way [G3598: ὁδὸς; hodos; 1. a road 2. (by implication) a progress (the route, act or distance) 3. (figuratively) a mode or means; occurs 16 times in Mark] of the [G3588: ὁ; ho; 1. the; occurs 70 times in Mark] Lord [G2962: κύριος; kurios; 1. supreme in authority 2. (as noun) controller 3. (by implication) Master (as a respectful title); occurs 16 times in Mark],

make [G4160: ποιέω; poieo; 2nd plural present imperative active; 1. to make or do; occurs 45 times in Mark] his [G846: αὐτός; autos; 1. self; occurs 449 times in Mark] paths [G5147: τρῖβος; tribos; 1. a rut or worn track; occurs in 1:3] straight [G2117: ἑυθὺς; euthus; 1. straight 2. (literally) level 3. (figuratively) true 4. (adverbially of time) at once; occurs 36 times in Mark],”

4 John [G2491: Ἰωάννης; Ioannes; 1. Joannes (i.e. Jochanan), the name of four Israelites; occurs 25 times in Mark] appeared [G1096: γίνομαι; ginomai; 3rd singular 2nd aorist indicative middle deponent; 1. to cause to be ("gen"-erate) 2. (reflexively) to become (come into being); occurs 44 times in Mark], baptizing [G907: βαπτίζω; baptizo; masculine singular nominative present participle active; 1. to immerse, submerge 2. to make
whelmed or soaked (i.e. fully wet); occurs in 1:4; 1:5; 1:8 (2); 1:9; 6:14; 7:4; 10:38 (2); 10:39 (2); 16:16] in [G1722: ἔν; en; I. "in," at, (up-)on, by, etc.; occurs 111 times in Mark] the [G3588: ὁ; ho; 1. the; occurs 70 times in Mark] wilderness [G2048: ἔρημος; eremos; 1. lonesome 2. (by implication) waste; occurs in 1:3; 1:4; 1:12; 1:13; 1:35; 1:45; 6:31; 6:32; 6:35] and [G2532: καὶ; kai; 1. and, also, even, so then, too, etc.; occurs 531 times in Mark] proclaiming [G2784: κηρύσσω; kerusso; masculine singular nominative present participle active 1. to herald (as a public crier), especially divine truth (the gospel); occurs 14 times in Mark] a baptism [G908: βάπτισμα; baptisma; 1. immersion (technically or figuratively); occurs in 1:4; 10:38; 10:39; 11:30] of repentance [G3341: μετάνοια; metanoia; 1. (subjectively) compunction (for guilt, including reformation) 2. (by implication) reversal (of another’s decision); occurs in 1:4] for [G1519: εἰς; eis; 1. to or into (indicating the point reached or entered), of place, time 2. (figuratively) to or into a purpose (result, etc.); occurs 115 times in Mark] the forgiveness [G859: ἀφεσις; apheis; 1. freedom 2. (figuratively) pardon; occurs in 1:4; 3:29] of sins [G266: ἁμαρτία; hamartia; 1. a sin; occurs in 1:4; 1:5; 2:5; 2:7; 2:9; 2:10]. 5 And [G2532: καὶ; kai; 1. and, also, even, so then, too, etc.; occurs 531 times in Mark] all [G3956: πᾶς; pas; 1. all, any, every, the whole; occurs 62 times in Mark] the [G3588: ὁ; ho; 1. the; occurs 70 times in Mark] country [G1158: γῆς; 1. land 2. (figuratively) world; occurs in 1:5; 5:1; 5:10; 6:55] of Judea [G2453: ἱεροσολυμῆς; Hierosolymites; 1. a Hierosolymite, i.e. inhabitant of Hierosylyma; occurs in 1:5] were going [G1607: ἐκπορεύομαι; ekporeuomai; 3rd singular imperfect indicative middle or passive deponent 1. to depart, be discharged, proceed, project; occurs 11 times in Mark] out to [G4314: πρὸς; pros; 1. forward to, i.e. toward 2. (genitive case) the side of, i.e. pertaining to 3. (dative case) by the side of, i.e. near to 4. (accusative case, usually) the place, time, occasion, or respect (which is the destination of the relation, i.e. whither or for which it is predicated); occurs 59 times in Mark] him [G846: αὐτός; autos; 1. self; occurs 449 times in Mark] and [G2532: καὶ; kai; 1. and, also, even, so then, too, etc.; occurs 531 times in Mark] were being baptized [G907: βαπτίζω; baptizo; 3rd plural imperfect indicative passive 1. to immerse, submerge 2. to make whelmed or soaked (i.e. fully wet); occurs in 1:4; 1:5; 1:8 (2); 1:9; 6:14; 6:24; 7:4; 10:38 (2); 10:39 (2); 16:16] by [G5259: ὕπο; hupo; 1. under 2. (with the genitive case) of place (beneath), or with verbs (the agency or means, through) 3. (with the accusative case) of place (whither underneath) or where (below) or time (when at)). In the comparative, it retains the same general applications, especially of inferior position or condition, and specially, covertly or moderately.; occurs in 1:5; 1:9; 1:13; 2:3; 4:21 (2); 4:32; 5:26; 8:31; 13:13; 16:11] him [G846: αὐτός; autos; 1. self; occurs 449 times in Mark] in [G1722: ἔν; en; I. "in," at, (up-)on, by, etc.; occurs 111 times in Mark] the [G3588: ὁ; ho; 1. the; occurs 70 times in Mark] river [G4215: ποταμός; potamos; 1. a current, brook or freshet (as drinkable), i.e. running water; occurs in 1:5] Jordan [G2446: Ἰορδάνης; Iordanes; 1. the Jordanes (i.e. Jarden), a river of Israel; occurs in 1:5; 1:9; 3:8; 10:1], confessing [G1843: ἔξωμολογέω; exomologeo; masculine plural nominative present participle middle 1. to acknowledge or (by implication, of assent) agree fully; occurs in 1:5] their [G846: αὐτός; autos; 1. self; occurs 449 times in Mark] sins [G266: ἁμαρτία; hamartia; 1. a sin; occurs in 1:4; 1:5; 2:5; 2:7; 2:9; 2:10].
Footnotes:
   a. Mark 1:1 Some manuscripts omit the Son of God [this is a textual variant, part of textual criticism]
   b. Mark 1:2 Some manuscripts in the prophets
   c. Mark 1:3 Or crying: Prepare in the wilderness

Apply (What is the point?)

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

Our schedule plan
Next week we’ll start with Mark 1:____, and we’ll go until we’re finished.

Homework
1. Pray for help in understanding Mark
2. Hear Mark multiple times
3. Think about Mark often (day and night)
4. Talk with someone (dead or alive) about Mark
5. Share your insights about Mark
6. Invite a member and a non-member

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