

MAIN POINT:

Jesus is the Messiah Throughout the Old Testament, we learn that God wants a relationship with us, but sin has been in the way. God used many people for His plan of redemption including sending a Messiah (anointed one) to repair that relationship. Mark opens with a reminder of His plan and introduces us to a man named John the Baptist who is announcing and preparing the way for the promised Messiah. Jesus is that Messiah and is affirmed in several ways. First, as Jesus is baptized by John, God identifies Jesus as His Son and the promised Savior. The second thing we see is that Jesus brings the Holy Spirit. John identifies Jesus as the one who baptizes not with water, but with the Spirit of God. The third way we see Jesus being affirmed as the Messiah is that Jesus proclaims the Kingdom of God is here and invites us to be a part of His kingdom.

FAMILY DISCUSSION:

1. **Have you ever looked up to someone? Why did you like them? What kinds of people do we like to follow? Why do we follow other people?**
2. **When you heard our title for this week's topic, *Jesus is the Messiah*, what things came to mind? How would you describe Jesus is the Messiah to a friend or younger sibling?**
3. **Let's read Mark 1:15-17. When you hear "fish for people" what comes to mind? How can you be 'fishers of people' in your own life? Who in your life needs to hear the good news?**
4. **Jesus talked about the Kingdom of God. In this Kingdom, everyone has a role to play. What role do you see yourself playing in this Kingdom? What is your spiritual gift?**

FAMILY PRAYER:

Ask your child how you can pray for them.

- What is their biggest concern this week?
- Where do they see God working in their life?

Pray with and for your child.

- (Student's name), as a child of God, may you experience Jesus Christ, the Messiah in a personal way. May you hear His voice, His gentle whispers, and have courage to do the things He wants you to do. May you be an ambassador of the Kingdom of God in your home, community, and school. May you know how loved you are as you follow Him with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength.
- God, today we acknowledge and admit the things we are holding on to. The sin in our lives, the things we want to control, the things that are in the way of us following you with all of our heart soul, mind and strength. Please forgive each one of us for our sins, for having things in our lives

that keep us from obeying You. We leave these things behind now and let them drop to the ground. Thank You for loving us and never leaving us. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen.