

## **The Good--and Bad--News**

*Central idea: We need to hear the bad news of our lostness in order to embrace the good news of forgiveness.*

Mark 1:1-11

### **Look up.**

*Read the passage thoughtfully.*

What did you like about the passage?

What did you find difficult about the passage?

What does this passage teach about people?

What does this passage teach about God?

*Alternative questions to help you think through this passage:*

- How does John the Baptist prepare the way for the Lord (see vv. 2-3)?
- Who prepared the way for the Lord in your life? What happened?
- Why do you think people poured out to see John and hear his message (v. 5)?
- How would you define “repentance” (v. 4)? What role did repentance play in your commitment to the Savior?
- The Bible cuts deep into our souls and leaves us exposed before God (see Hebrews 4:12). When we experience that exposure as believers, what is the necessary response (see 1 John 1:9)?
- How could we help an unbelieving friend or relative see their own sin and need for salvation without being judgmental?
- What happens when Jesus is baptized (vv. 10-11)? Why do you think this is?

### **Look forward.**

- Identify three people in your life who may not know the Lord Jesus. Before you leave your group, pray for one of them.