

St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2023! Leading to Worship Sunday, December 10, 2023

Reading: Mark 1:1-8

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! EBC also has a video component on the St. John's website and St. John's You Tube channel. This week's video finds a bit of "wilderness" in the city, in order to think about God's straight path for Jesus, and us! Click here: <https://youtu.be/L3KHdVK4QLI> Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- Mark 1, the Good News of Jesus Christ begins! And it begins with the story of John the Baptist who "appeared" in the wilderness, making "straight" the path for Jesus.
- John is in the wilderness, but Mark makes clear, people are still coming to him, to hear him tell of Jesus' coming, and to be baptized in the River Jordan.
- "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:7-8)

Two Questions

- Do you notice the detail here? People are coming out to John, in the wilderness, to hear him tell of Jesus and be baptized! Are you surprised? Would you have expected John to go to them? What does that tell you about John's persistence and faith? And about the faith of the Jewish people, looking for the Messiah?
- How "straight" does John seem to have made Jesus' path? From humble beginnings at Christmas, all the way to Good Friday and Easter, does Jesus' path seem straight to you? Was it straight from the viewpoint of God's plan? What does that tell you?

Action Step

- Be persistent this week, even where God's work seems hard! God is sending people your way!

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?

And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!