MARK: The Water and the War 2.17.08

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the
Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased." 12 The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 And
he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and
the angels were ministering to him. Mark 1:9-13 ESV

v.9 *"Nazareth…Jordan"* The Story is anchored in real history in a real place.
v.10-11 *"he…Spirit…voice"* The Trinity in action.

Jesus' baptism was about _____.

1. Identification (Affirmation) as the Son of God.
2. Identification with the People of God He was sent to redeem.

Questions for Reflection:

Do I now have a better understanding and appreciation for the baptism of Jesus?
Have I been biblically baptized (publicly identifying myself with Jesus based on my faith in Him)? If not, why not?

v.12 *"The Spirit…"* God does not tempt us, but leads us into a place of testing.
V.13 *"wilderness"* Remember last week? This is a rough place to be.

1 And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the
wilderness 2 for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And
when they were ended, he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command
this stone to become bread." 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread
alone.'" 5 And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of
time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered
to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 And
Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you
serve.'" 9 And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him,
"If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, 'He will command
his angels concerning you, to guard you,' 11 and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you
strike your foot against a stone.'" 12 And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the
Lord your God to the test.'" 13 And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from
him until an opportune time. Luke 4: 1-13 ESV

Truths about the Devil:

1. He is real and his mission is to derail the Mission of Jesus (v.1).
2. He comes to tempt us when we are weak (v.2).
   What are my moments and areas of weakness in my life?
3. He tempts us to make good things God things (v.3).
   What good thing is the devil tempting me to make a God thing?
4. He tempts us to take shortcuts (v.5).
   Where am I being tempted to take shortcuts?
5. He tempts us with safety and the avoidance of pain (v.5)
   How am I being tempted to just take the 'easy road?'
6. He twists the Scriptures.
7. He fights dirty.

Dealing with Temptation: ***Jesus is both our Model and our Means.***

1. Because Jesus stood firm and now stands in us, we can stand firm as well.
   a. Sin is not something we *have* to do but something we choose to do.
   b. When we sin, we are walking in line with who we *were*, not who we *are*.
      1. 1 Cor. 10:13, 1 Jn. 2:1
      2. When we sin, we need to repent and claim the Gospel promises.

2. Jesus used the Scriptures to counter the devil's temptations. We should too.
   a. How do we do this?
      1. Memorize Scripture.
      2. Leverage Family worship time at night. (*visit our website for resources)*

In dealing with temptation, do you know where you are weak and do you have a plan to deal what is coming?

Bible Bites for Teaching Your Children at Home:

1. Baptism says that we belong to Jesus. *(Use wedding ring for Mommy/Daddy).*
2. The devil is real. We don't need to be afraid, but we do need to be aware.
   *Teach them the 7 truths as you think they can understand at their level.
3. Because Jesus said 'no' to temptation, we can say 'no' to temptation too.
4. When we are tempted, we need to look to Jesus and use our memory verses.

Visit www.crossinglouisville.com for more helpful resources, including study guides on Mark.

Works Consulted : Expositor's Bible Commentary, NIV Application Commentary, Life Application Bible, MacArthur Study Bible, Jesus: God's Servant by Massimo Lorenzini, Messages by Mark Driscoll, Matt Chandler and Steve Hart