

Date: February 15, 2026
Series: The Gospel According to Mark
Title: "Commissioned and Confirmed"
Text: Mark 1:9-13



Introduction: It was not enough for Jesus just to die for you; He had to **LIVE** for you. He had to succeed everywhere we have **FAILED**.

I. In the Jordan, we see the **COMMITMENT of the Son.** (v. 9)

Scripture: *Matthew 3:15; Luke 12:50; Isaiah 53:11; Acts 1:22-23*

- Jesus' baptism was radical **DEDICATION** to the Father's will and a "plunge" into the mission towards the **CROSS**.
- Jesus' baptism was so pivotal that it served as the official **STARTING LINE** for Jesus' public ministry and the qualification for apostolic witness.

II. From the Heavens, we observe the **AFFIRMATION of the Trinity.** (v. 10-11)

Scripture: *Isaiah 64:1-2; Isaiah 42:1; Romans 8:11; Psalm 2:7*

- The Holy Spirit descended to formally **ANOINT** Jesus for ministry.
- Because we are "in Christ," the Father's **PLEASURE** in His Son is now extended to every believer.
- Jesus' authority as the beloved Son is the foundation for everything He accomplishes as God's **SERVANT**.

III. In the Wilderness, we witness the **VALIDATION of the Servant.** (v. 12-13)

Scripture: *1 Corinthians 15:45; Isaiah 13:21*

- Jesus was "driven" into the desert, not by coercion, but by the inward **POWER** of the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus, the 2nd Adam, **TRIUMPHED** over temptation where the 1st Adam failed.
- Because Jesus remained sinless, He is:
 1. The spotless sacrificial **LAMB**. (*1 Peter 1:18-19*)
 2. Our merciful **HIGH PRIEST**. (*Hebrews 4:15*)
 3. The Victor over **DEATH**. (*Romans 6:23; Acts 2:24; Romans 5:18-19*)

Conclusion:

1. **Rest in His Righteousness:** You don't have to build your own foundation; when you trust Jesus, His **RECORD** becomes yours.
 2. **Walk in His Power:** The same Spirit that empowered Jesus' earthly life now **DWELLS** in you to comfort, convict, and empower you for the Father's mission.
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Discussion Questions

1. We often focus on why Jesus died, but based on today's teaching, why is it equally important to our salvation that He lived a perfectly righteous life?
2. Jesus stood in a muddy river with sinners to identify with us. How does this change the way you approach Him when you feel "messy" or overwhelmed by your own failures?
3. Have you been baptized? Why is the baptism of believers so important?
4. Why was the Father's approval of Jesus significant for Jesus' mission?
5. Consider the contrast between Adam in the Garden and Jesus in the Wilderness. Why is it significant that Jesus won the battle in the "worst possible circumstances" rather than the best?
6. If the sinless Son of God relied on the Holy Spirit to navigate temptation, how can we practically rely on the Spirit this week instead of our own willpower?