

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JUNE 5, 2022

Bill Search, Executive Pastor



This week Bill Search, Executive Pastor of Education, kicked off our new series, *Momentum*, with a message challenging us to evaluate our spiritual life. He anchored his message in this verse:

"The time has come. The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15).

This was the beginning of Jesus' ministry, and that's where the book of Mark begins. If these are Jesus' first words in his ministry, they must be important. This statement requires us to evaluate where we are in our spiritual life and what may need to change, and it reminds us there is good news attached to it.

SCRIPTURE

MARK 1:15

"The time has come. The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

MARK 1:16-20

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:11A

"... make it your ambition to lead a quiet life ..."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out from Bill's message?
2. Read Mark 1:15. Break this down into parts. (Use your general knowledge and Bill's reference points from his message).
 - a. What does "The time has come" mean?
 - b. What does "The kingdom of God has come near" mean?
 - c. What does "repent" mean?
 - d. What does "believe" mean?
 - e. What is the "good news"?
3. As Bill explained, the Book of Mark is a record of Peter's experience. With that in mind, read Mark 1:16-20. Understanding the fishermen had known Jesus for a while, what did it take for them to leave and follow Jesus?

4. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:11a. What does a quiet life look like?
5. Look at the statements in Mark 1:15 – Time has come. Kingdom of God. Repent. Believe. Good news. With a goal of moving forward in your relationship with God:
 - a. Take stock of your own spiritual life?
 - b. What needs to change? (What gets in the way?)
6. How can we pray for you?

PRAYER

Ask God to reveal areas where you need to change your mind and direction (repent). Commit to the Lord that you will do that. Thank God for his longing to draw near, his grace, and his gift of reconciliation.