



elev8

life on another level

Student Workbook

YEAR 2

**The Identity
of Jesus**

Son of God

Bible Reading

Mark 1:1 to 2:17



Learning Outcomes

At the end of this week you will be able to:

- Locate geographically Jesus' early period of ministry.
- Express familiarity with a key concept in Jesus' teaching - "the kingdom of God."
- Integrate an awareness of God's kingdom into your own life.

Notes from Bible Reading

Scripture A word or phrase that stood out to me:

Observation What is happening in this Bible reading?

Application Something that I learned about who I am or how I should live:

Prayer What I would like to say to God, ask of God, or what I think God is saying to me:

Key Question Did Jesus believe he was God's Son?

Engage

Go around the group and share one thing for each heading that has happened since you last met:

- What was something that you were hoping for in this past week?
- Did it work out?
- What are you hoping for next week?

If God arrived at your high school later this afternoon, what would you expect to happen?

Explore – Locate

- *What stood out to you in the Bible readings this week?*
- *What did you find meaningful or significant?*
- *Is there anything that you didn't understand or found confusing?*
- *Any questions or comments you may have?*

Read together: Mark 1:9-28

Apart from a brief splash of publicity surrounding his birth, Jesus kept a fairly low profile for most of the first thirty years of his life. He grew up working as a carpenter in a country town called Nazareth, in a region known as Galilee.

Meanwhile, one of his relatives, a man we know as "John the Baptist," began preaching to people in the desert. His message was that God's promised Messiah would soon come, and that people must be ready. He called people to go through a special symbolic washing called "baptism" as a sign that they were leaving their old life behind and turning to God.

Jesus joined the crowds who lined up for baptism. Following a remarkable event, he then burst onto the scene performing powerful miracles, giving powerful teaching and granting forgiveness from sins.

Jesus' message was that God's kingdom was near, and everywhere he went the characteristics of God's kingdom were breaking through. This led to the key question in Mark 2:7 - "who can forgive sins but God alone?"

Can you piece together the clues to Jesus' real identity?

Explore – Express

Write a poem which describes what it means for Jesus to be the Son of God, using the themes from Mark 1:9-28.

You might wish to make it an acrostic.

Depending on group size, some or all students can then share their poems with the group.

Explore – Integrate

Was Jesus the Son of God before he was baptised?

Why might this be an important question?

Why do you think that the coming of God's kingdom is good news?

Should we be surprised about the opposition that Jesus faced? (e.g. Mark 1:13, 1:23, 2:7 and 2:17). Why or why not?

Think about our own society. Can you think of any ways in which the work of the kingdom of God is continuing today?

Extend

Discuss with your group the challenges you are tackling. Use the time to ask for any help you might need, or to work together on any shared projects that you have.

Questions that may be helpful include:

- What challenges are you working on at the moment?
- Do you need any support or assistance?
- Are there any challenges that you have completed that we need to recognise and celebrate?
- Are there any new challenges that you want to work on?

Encourage

Tell another student in your group something you value or appreciate about them.

Share one thing you would like to pray for and pray for one another.

Finish with this blessing to say to each other:

May God's Son Jesus be good news for you: may he bring you through the troubles of this life, into his eternal kingdom of healing, wholeness and forgiveness.