

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Mark 1:9-11
NRSV

“An Unexpected Start”

January 4, 2019

The Problem

Our _____ shape the way we experience the world.

When we hold our expectations of Jesus too tightly, we _____ who he really is.

Our expectations of Jesus are always _____ who he really is.

The Jesus we meet in the Bible is unexpected, surprising, and even _____.

Jesus opens up a new world that we never could have _____.

The Baptism of Jesus

Mark introduced his writing as a “_____.”

“An euangelion...is a message about something that alters the climate in which people live, changing the politics and the possibilities; it transforms the landscape of social life.” Rowan Williams


John _____ as a sign of “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” (1:4)

Jesus was baptized by someone _____ powerful for forgiveness he did not need.

The love of Jesus is a _____ love.

The power of Jesus’ love for us always _____ our expectations.

Jesus _____ the barriers between heaven and earth so that we might hear the voice of God saying, “You are my child, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

 *Don't let your expectations define Jesus. Let Jesus define your expectations. #1Cfridays*

Action Steps

1. _____ 1 chapter of Mark each day. Pay attention to the ways Jesus defies your expectations.
2. _____ the love of Jesus.