

Listening Guide

I. Introduction to the Earthly Ministry of Jesus

A. Wilderness Experience

[1] What event occurred between Jesus' baptism and His ministry?

[2] What 3 specific types of temptation did Matt. and Luke describe?

[3] What did all of these temptations tempt Jesus to do?

B. Three Human Temptations

[4] What 3 types of temptation did John record in 1 John 2:16 that compare to these temptations?

[5] What application does Hebrews 2:17-18 make on the basis of these parallels?

II. Jesus' First Disciples (John 1)

[6] How well was Jesus known during this phase of His ministry?

A. Jesus' First Disciples (John 1)

[7] What crucial step did Jesus take early in His ministry?

B. Cana to Cana (John 2-4)

[8] What pattern characterized the first half of John's gospel?

[9] What did Jesus turning the water to wine suggest?

[10] What was Jesus' point about being "Born again?"

[11] What famous event is presented in John chapter 4?

[12] What 3 reasons did Blomberg give to explain how “striking” Jesus conversation in John 4 was?

III. Galilean Ministry – Part I

A. Introduction

[13] What happened when Jesus returned to Galilee?

[14] How long did this phase last?

[15] What was the core of Jesus preaching message?

B. Kingdom of God Is at Hand

[16] What do some commentators call most of Mark 1?

[17] What issue related to miracles did Blomberg raise?

C. Question of Authenticity

[18] What difference between Jesus' miracle stories and those of the ancient Greek and Roman myths lend credibility to the Gospel accounts?

[19] Why was this difference so powerful as a testimony?

[20] How did those who opposed Jesus explain His undeniable miracles?

D. Pronouncement Stories

[21] What characterizes a "pronouncement story?"

[22] After healing the paralyzed man what even more amazing pronouncement did Jesus make?

E. Discipleship and Opposition

[23] What significant event occurred a certain distance into the Galilean ministry?

[24] What 2 things were “striking” about Jesus calling the Twelve?

F. Parables

[25] What did Jesus introduce to his ministry in Mark 4?

[26] What two functions did the parables perform?

[27] What is going on here?

[28] Did the Unpardonable Sin eliminate anyone from heaven?

G. Responses to the Kingdom

[29] What do the parables focus attention on more than any other topic?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson

Application

Dr. Blomberg mentioned that unlike the rabbis, Jesus called those whom he wanted as apostles rather than wait for whoever wanted to follow him. He still calls us to follow him in a very devoted and committed relationship. Have you responded to that invitation? Are you a devoted follower of Jesus Christ? If not, explain your reason for not responding. If yes, describe how consistently you live as a devoted follower? What does that look like for you?