

April 13, 2014 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

PART 13: JOHN THE BAPTIZER

Matthew 3:1-6; Mark 1:1-6; Luke 3:1-6; John 1:6-8

ABOUT JOHN

- Extraordinary circumstances surround his birth. (Luke 1)
- Grew up in the wilderness.
- Strong in spirit.
- Lead with great integrity, humility, and authority.

John was **SENT** by God.

JOHN'S ROLE

John's Role: **HERALD** the Coming of Jesus Christ, Preparing the Way for Him.

Are you **PREPARING THE WAY** for your friends and family to meet Jesus?

1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK



Open Your Group in Prayer.

Use this as a quide, you don't have to answer every question in your group.

- Read each account of John the Baptist from Matthew, Mark, and Luke.
 Make a list of everything you see that's similar in each account.
- 2. What details are unique to Matthew?
- 3. What details are unique to Mark?
- 4. What details are unique to Luke?
- 5. What have you learned about John the Baptist? What questions do you still have?
- 6. How do Matthew 3:4 & Mark 1:6 descriptions of John tie into his ministry?
- 7. Read Ephesians 4:28-32 and James 2:14-18. What is repentance?
- 8. **Read Acts 11:18 and 2 Timothy 2:25.** How is repentance described in those verses?
- 9. **Read Ephesians 2:8-10.** How is salvation described in this passage?
- 10. John's role was to "prepare the way" for Jesus. He was sent by God to do this. Read John 17:18 and John 20:21. Who else is sent by God?
- 11. **Read Matthew 28:18-20.** Jesus commands us to make disciples. It's hard work. It takes time. It takes preparation. John did this well, making a "beeline" to Jesus in his ministry. Who are you being intentional with to prepare the way so that they might meet Jesus?

John's job was to get people ready for Jesus. Jesus was about to show up, and he wanted to make sure there was nothing keeping them from following him. So, John told the people to do two things: repent and be baptized.

<u>REPENT:</u> Below is a simple definition of what it means to repent. Read it together and talk about how that looks/has looked/can look in your own life.

Repent: to change your mind about sinful thoughts and actions and turn to God for forgiveness.

<u>BE BAPTIZED:</u> Baptism is a way to show others that you've repented; that you've turned from your sin and trusted Jesus for forgiveness.

Parents, if you've been baptized, talk to your kids about that experience.

After we've repented and been baptized, how else can we show others that we trust and follow Jesus?

Parents, if your kids have not trusted Jesus, pray that the Holy Spirit would show them their need for forgiveness. Pray also that God would use you to point them to him. If your kids have trusted Jesus, spent time in great thanksgiving to God!

These simple questions are designed to help you live out the command in Deuteronomy 6:7 to teach our kids and make God's Word a natural topic of conversation in our homes. Use them at the dinner table, in the car, or whoever you find your family together with a few moments to spare.

PRAYFR GUIDF

WEEK OF APRIL 13, 2014

During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items. Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.

NOTE: Due to the sensative nature of some items on the Prayer Guide, we do not publish it online. Email the church office to sign up for the email prayer list: office@wawaseebible.com