

LUKE SERMON SERIES - DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

DAY 1

THE SETTING

Read Luke 3:1-6.

- When does this narrative take place?
 - Notice all the political leaders that Luke mentions. List their names and where they governed. (Do any of these regions sound familiar from what we have already read in Luke?)
 - Why do you think Luke listed all these leaders and regions?
- Where did the word of God come to John?
 - Note where he was the last time we read about John (Luke 1:80).
 - Where did the prophet Isaiah say a voice was calling?
- Where did John go to preach?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication.

DAY 2

THE CHARACTERS: JOHN

Read Luke 3:1-20 and note what we learn about John.

- Who was his father?
- What was he preaching?
 - What is the tone of his preaching?
- What was he doing to the people who came to him?
 - What different kinds of people came out to hear him?
- What were the people wondering about him? (Why do you think they wondered about this?)
- Where does John end up at the end of this passage? Why?

Reflect on John's character and bold message as you pray today. How does his clear message and bold proclamation encourage or challenge you today?

DAY 3

THE MESSAGE

Read Luke 3:7-14. John's message centered on repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Luke 3:3).

- What key imagery does he use in this message?
- What does he warn them about?
- How do the crowds respond? (What does this tell you about John and his preaching?)
- What three specific examples does he give of "producing fruit" in response to their questions?
- What sin issue is he pointing out in each example?

Today as you reflect on John's message, remember that though good works do not bring us salvation, they are proof of true repentance. What might you need to confess and repent of today in light of your salvation? What do you need to do? Bring it to the Lord in your prayers.

DAY 4

THE MESSIAH

Read Luke 3:15-18. Luke records that the people were “waiting expectantly” and “wondering in their hearts” if John was the Messiah.

- How does John compare himself with the one who is coming (the Messiah)?
 - What is the difference between the baptism of John and the baptism of Messiah?
- What imagery does John use to describe the work of the Messiah?
 - What will he do with the wheat?
 - What will he do with the chaff?
 - What connections do you see between this message and John’s earlier commands in 3:7-9?
- In light of all this how would you summarize the “good news” that John was proclaiming?

Reflect on John’s understanding of his own unworthiness next to the coming Messiah. How does his attitude encourage or challenge you today?

DAY 5

ISAIAH

Read Luke 3:1-6. In this passage Luke quotes several verses from the prophet Isaiah in order to point his readers to a broader message from this prophet.

Read Isaiah 40:1-11 where you will find these verses in their context.

- What is the tone at the beginning of this passage?
- In verses 6-8, how are people described?
 - How is God’s Word contrasted to people?
- What is the good news in verses 9-11?
- How does this Old Testament passage connect to John the Baptist’s message (and Luke’s greater purpose) in Luke 3?
- Finally, what do you notice about WHO will see God’s salvation in Isaiah 40:5/Luke 3:6?

Reflect on the enduring Word of God today, and the fulfilled promise we have of salvation for all people!