

Matt 3:1-4:11, Luke 3:1-22, 4:1-13, Jn 1:19-34 - Daily Study Questions

4. In Luke 3:10-14 what are some examples of true repentance (v10-11, 12-13, 14)? What do these examples have in common?	
5. Read Matt 3:11-12. How would the ministry of “He who is coming” differ from that of John’s (v11)? Explain both of His baptisms (v11-12)?	
6. Based on John 1:19-34 how did John compare to Jesus (v19-21, 22-24, 25-28, 30-31)? How did he specifically identify Him (v29, 32-33, 34)?	
7. Looking again at Matt 3:13-17, compare it with John 1:28-31. What were the purposes of Jesus’ submission to John’s baptism (Matt 3:15, 17, Jn 1:31)?	
8. From Luke 4:1-13 describe Jesus’ condition as he was tempted (v1-2). In what area did Satan attack Jesus first (v2-3) and how did He resist this temptation (v4)? Apply.	
9. Using Luke 4:5-8 what was Satan’s next test (v5-7) and to what was he appealing (v6)? How did Jesus overcome this temptation (v8) and why was this the perfect answer?	
10. In Luke 4:9-12 how was Jesus tempted (v9-11)? To what did this appeal and how did Jesus defeat it (v12)? Summarize Jesus’ (v4, 8, 12) and Satan’s (v13) approach to temptations.	
11. Review John’s ministry, Jesus’ baptism, and Jesus temptations. Why was each necessary to set the stage for Jesus’ public ministry? How do these correspond to our lives?	

Scripture to Remember

“And I have seen, and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

John 1:34 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

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Life Group Questions—Compelled by Love (2 Cor 5:14-21)

(Using questions based on today’s message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Tell the group about a time when someone shared Jesus with you and a time that you shared Jesus with someone else. How would you describe that experience?
2. Read 2 Cor 5:14-21. What should a realization of the love of Christ lead us to do (v14-15)? How do we get to the place where we really grasp His love?
3. How should our viewpoint of people change once we are born again (v16-17)? How does this shape our relationships?
4. What enabled us to be “reconciled” or “become friends with” God (v18)? How should this affect our purpose for life (v19)?
5. Using 5:20-21 explain the gospel to each other as if they had never heard it. Why is it so hard for people to believe this?
6. Specifically identify to the group people you know who need to become friends with God . Talk about what it would take for you to be able to share with them.
7. If there is time discuss anything else meaningful to you from the message Sunday.



THE LIFE OF JESUS

Studies in the Gospels

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Setting the Stage

Matt 3:1-4:11, Luke 3:1-22, 4:1-13, Jn 1:19-34



Jesus' one solitary life changed the course of mankind for eternity.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Whether a performance is large or small, the proper execution of it requires first the setting of the stage. Preliminary things must be in place for the show to go well. This week's segment in the study of the life of Jesus deals with such prerequisites. First, framing true repentance was necessary because those to whom Jesus came thought they were righteous. So, John's message of repentance had to include calling attention to their areas of sin. Ordinary people sinned by being selfish, by stealing, or by oppression; but the leaders also sinned by their self-righteousness. John preached that they were not righteous before God unless they truly repented—they had to bear fruit that demonstrated the reality of their confession. The first step of this was to submit to

baptism, an admission that their standard of righteousness was wrong. As John baptized those who were genuinely repentant Jesus came to him requesting baptism. John protested, saying that he should be baptized by Jesus, the lesser by the Greater. Jesus, however, told him that it was necessary for fulfilling all righteousness. Jesus came to identify with man and submitted Himself to the ministry God had given John. In so doing He validated John's ministry and encouraged others to follow His example. This also allowed God to give an outward stamp of approval to Jesus as His beloved Son in whom He was well-pleased. The final element in setting the stage was that of Jesus facing real temptation. Repentance had prepared the people and Jesus' baptism had affirmed John's ministry. Now

He had to show His ability to defeat Satan. He was tested first in the area of the flesh, being enticed to take matters into His own hands to satisfy His hunger. Then, Satan baited His eyes to worship the glory of the material world. Last, Satan attempted to lure Him into showing off and giving into pride. Jesus overcame temptation each time by using scripture and thus the devil left Him until a more opportune time. The people were now ready to receive His message and He had identified with mankind. These things had set the stage for Jesus' ministry.

Study Questions for Matt 3:1-4:11, Luke 3:1-22, 4:1-13, Jn 1:19-34

(for answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study%20questions))

1. Read Matt 3:1-6. Describe John (v4) and his ministry (v1-2, 5-6). What prophecy did he fulfill (Is 40:1-3)? Why do you think people were attracted to him?	
2. Looking at Matt 3:7-10 how did John approach the religious leaders (v7, 8, 9-10)? What was he trying to get them to do?	
3. Using Matt 3:8 what was the sign of true repentance (which means to change your mind about something)? Why does fruit show repentance and how does baptism fit into this (v6)?	

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