

Study Guide

Pray: Pray that God will show you something new in His Word and that you will be attentive as you read and consider these questions.

Read: Read Luke 3 straight through, as you would the chapter of any book – *even the genealogy....don't skip those verses!*

Discussion Questions:

1. Luke names five Roman rulers to mark the beginning of John the Baptist's ministry. (3:1) Fill in the following chart.

| | Position/title | Geographic area | Interesting facts |
|----------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Tiberius | | | |
| Pontius | | | |
| Herod | | | |
| Phillip | | | |
| Lysanias | | | |

2. Why do you think Luke wanted the reader to know the political rulers at that time as well as the names of the High Priests? (clue....look back at chapter 1v.1-4)
3. Read Matthew 3:1-10 and Mark 1:1-8 – What are some of the words you would use to describe John the Baptist?
4. Explain the mission that had been prophesied for John the Baptist (vs4-6), see also Isaiah 40:3-5, Malachi 3:1-3 and John 1:22-23
5. What were John's warnings to the crowd? (vs.7-9)

6. John did not tell the tax collectors or soldiers to change jobs, but he did tell them how to produce fruit in keeping with repentance. What changes do you need to make in your life to produce fruit in keeping with repentance?

7. Why did Jesus ask to be baptized by John even though He was sinless? See Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11 and John 1:31-34

8. How are the three persons of the Trinity evident in the baptism of Jesus by John? Can you think of another event when all were evident?

9. List all of the names in the genealogy that you recognize. Choose one and briefly describe who they were.

10. How does Luke's genealogy of Jesus (3:23-38) differ from Matthew's genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:1-17)? What is the significance of Luke's genealogy?

11. What detail about John's life or mission is the most interesting or motivating to you?