

# **Bible Study Discussion**

**2014-2015**

**Luke 3:1-20**



## **Lesson 12: John the Baptist**



# Memory Verses



Jesus answered,  
“It is written:  
‘Worship the Lord your God  
and serve Him only.’”

Luke 4:8

# Tropical storm headed our way. Massive flooding expected.





**John:**  
**The Time**  
**The Man**  
**The Message**



**Baptism**



**Advent**



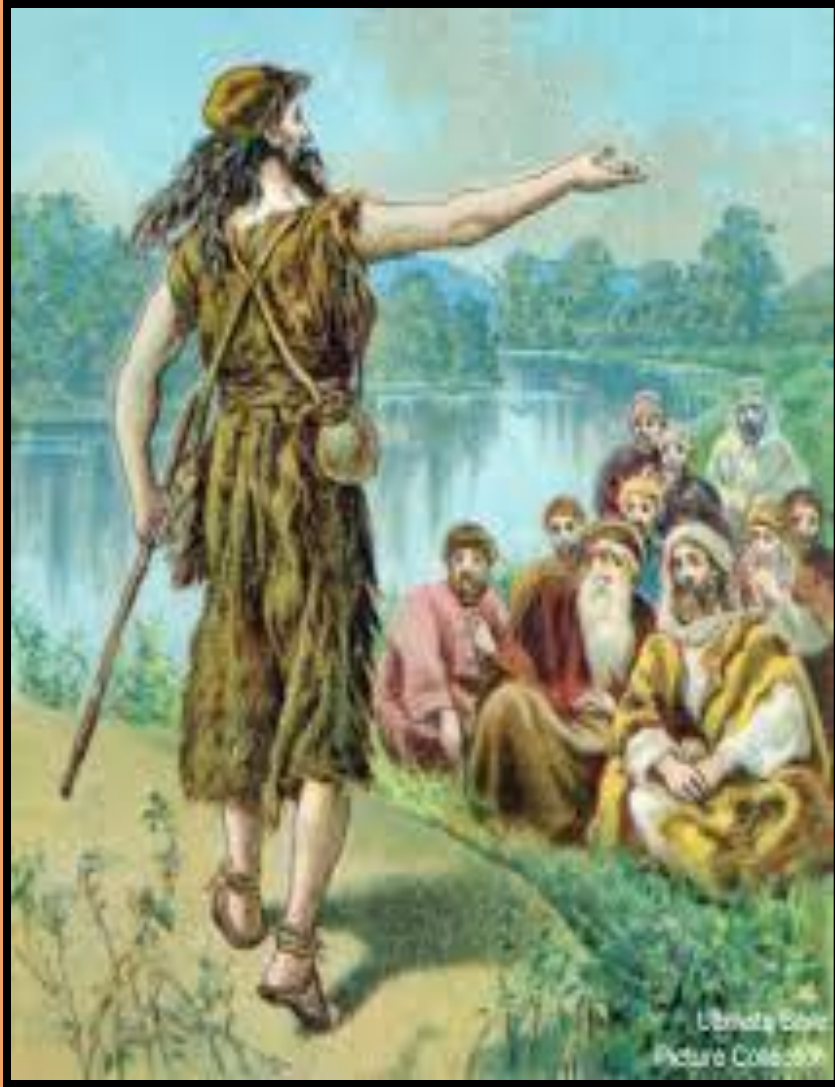
# John: The Time

## Corruption and Exploitation

- Although Rome ruled for about 100 years, for about 24 years there was a Roman governor living in the region.
- Emperor Augustus Caesar was replaced by Tiberius who was cruel and ruthless.
- Herod Antipas & Philip jointly ruled the North with permission from the emperor.
- In the South, Rome was in control.
- High priests Annas and Caiaphas weren't better.

**Then John Appears and Announces!**





# **John: The Man**

**Bridge  
Obedient  
Bold  
Insistent  
Humble  
Unwavering  
Nazarite**

# **John: The Man**

**John was a Nazarite,  
set apart for service to God.**

**Numbers 6**



- **Nazarites were not to drink wine or strong drinks, nor consume anything having to do with grapes.**
- **No razor could come upon their heads.**
- **They could not go near a corpse. If someone died near them, then there was a ritual they must go through involving offering sacrifices as a sin, burnt, and guilt offerings.**

# **John: The Message**



1. Judgment is near.  
Submit to God!
2. Repentance is needed.  
Confess your sins and  
change the way you live.  
Serve others!





# *How does John describe the Messiah?*

1. One the who is coming is in a higher position than John. He has more authority.
2. He brings the blessing of the Holy Spirit.
3. He is the judge.

***John points to Jesus!***







# Baptism Sundays for the Goings



# What is the difference in John's baptism and Christian baptism?



## John's Baptisms



1. John's baptisms look forward to the Messiah's coming and the Spirit's coming.
2. It is a time of preparation and anticipation.
3. The ones baptized declared their openness to God and awaited God's promise of the coming salvation.
4. God will be fulfilling the long-awaited hope of the Old Testament promise.



# Christian Baptism



Jesus is the Living Word.

Scripture is the Written Word.

Preaching is the Proclaimed Word.

Sacraments (Baptism) are the Enacted and Sealed Word.



- Baptism is the sign and seal of God's grace and covenant in Christ. It is a summons to respond in ministry to the world.
- Baptism signifies the beginning of life in Christ, not its completion.
- With baptism we are adopted into the family of Christ.





# Christian Baptism



## Baptism signifies:

Faithfulness of God

The washing away of sin

Rebirth

Putting on the fresh garment of Christ

Being sealed by God's Spirit

Adoption into the covenant family of the Church

Resurrection and illumination in Christ

# Advent



... “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12 NRSV

# *Advent*



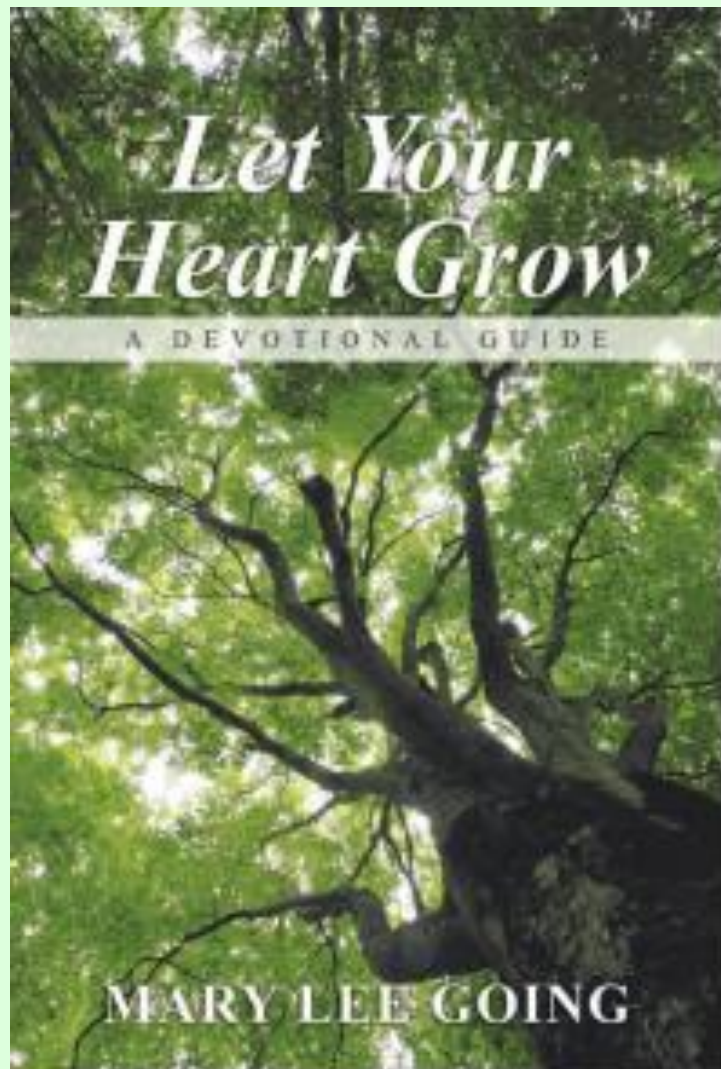
1. Advent is a time to look forward to the Messiah's coming.
2. It is a time of preparation and anticipation.
3. The people declare their openness to God and await God's promise of the coming salvation.
4. God will be fulfilling the long-awaited hope of the Old Testament promise as we celebrate the coming of the Messiah long ago and await Christ's return again.



What are you going to do to  
prepare for the celebration  
of the birth of Christ and  
Christ's coming again?



**Applying the Lesson to Your Life**



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*May your Christmas be joyous!*



*To God Alone Be the Glory!*





# Closing Prayer