

Stop

at Bible Class

Look

at Jesus' Works

Listen

to Jesus' Words



Lesson 3

Jesus' Baptism and Temptations

Theme: Obedience—Being strong against temptation

Memory Verse

“Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people. The news about Him spread ... [and] large crowds followed Him.” Matthew 4:23-25

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday	John 1:19-29
Friday	Matthew 3:1-6, 11, 13-17
Saturday	Luke 3:1-3, 10-16
Monday	Matthew 4:1-11
Tuesday	Luke 4:1-13

After this lesson you should be able to ...

- State the purpose of John's work
- Describe how John did his work
- Describe the event of Jesus' baptism
- Tell how Jesus responded to each of Satan's temptations

When He was around thirty years old, Jesus went into the world to preach good news and to save the world from sin. The Bible does not tell us much about Jesus' first thirty years. During these years Jesus became wiser, stronger, and better in every way. Jesus grew up and lived in Nazareth as the son of Joseph, a carpenter, and Mary. Joseph and Mary also had other children, who were Jesus' brothers and sisters.

One day Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth, came to Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee, and began preaching good news from God. But before Jesus took this important step, everything had to be ready. God sent John the Baptist

John 1:19-29

Matching:

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| John | is the Lamb of God |
| Jesus | is the voice Isaiah talked about |



to prepare the world. The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness so Jesus could prepare Himself.

John Prepared the World

God wanted Jesus' work announced to the world. He raised up Jesus' cousin, John, to help prepare the world for Jesus. John told people to turn from sin to be ready for the coming of the Savior. John worked in the wilderness of Judea around the Jordan

River. He wore clothes made of camel's hair and ate locusts and wild honey. As the prophet Isaiah said many years before, John was "the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make ready the way of the Lord'" (Matthew 3:1-3).

Many people went out to hear John preach. Some wanted to be ready for the Coming One and were baptized. Some people thought John was the Coming One whom they read about in

the Old Testament. But John explained that the one coming after him was much greater than he was. John said, "I am not fit to untie his sandals." He wanted people to be ready for Jesus!



Matthew 3:1-6, 11, 13-17

Isaiah said the prophet was the

_____ of one crying in the wilderness.

He wore _____.

He ate _____.

What two things happened at Jesus' baptism?

Jesus Prepared Himself

Jesus' mother Mary was a good woman. She watched Jesus grow up, knowing He was the Son of God, and knew He would be an important man. Mary must have taught Jesus that He was born of the Holy Spirit, because Jesus understood early in His life that God was His Father.

When the time was right, Jesus left Nazareth and went to John at the Jordan River to be baptized. At first, John didn't feel worthy to baptize Jesus. To save people from sin, Jesus became a man and lived as a man in every way. Since people needed to be baptized, Jesus wanted to be baptized. This was the right thing to do. When Jesus came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit came on Him in the form of a dove. Also,

Luke 3:1-3, 10-16

Some people thought they were right with God because they were in Abraham's family, but John told them that to be right with God, they must:

- pay him money
- change their lives
- change their clothes



God spoke from heaven and said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Immediately after His baptism, Jesus took another step to get ready to go into the world. He faced His enemy, the devil. The voice from heaven said that Jesus was God's Son. But would Jesus always obey His Father? The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to answer this question.

For forty days and nights Jesus went without eating. At the end of forty days, Jesus was hungry and then the devil showed up. The devil tried to get Jesus to do wrong in three ways. First, he tried to get Jesus to use His special power to turn stones to bread. Second, he tempted Jesus not to trust His Father by asking God to rescue Him by a miracle. Third, the devil suggested there was another, easier way to rule the world than God's way.

Matthew 4:1-11

What three words were in all of Jesus' answers to Satan?

- Get away Satan
- It is written
- No, I won't

How can you use these words?



Luke 4:1-13

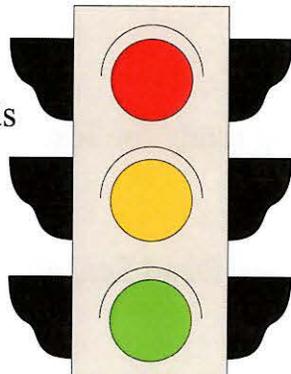
With each temptation, Satan tried in some way to get Jesus *not* to ___ God.

a) trust, b) help, or c) be

In each temptation, Satan tempted Jesus not to trust and obey God. He tempted Jesus to get what He wanted in some other way than God's way. We are tempted in the same way. Will we do the Father's will or go some other way? Jesus used the Scriptures to resist the temptations. He trusted God. He obeyed and worshiped only God. In making these hard decisions, Jesus prepared Himself to

save the world from sin. He also gave us a great example of resisting the devil. At last, Jesus was ready to go into the world.

When one of my friends tries to get me to do something wrong, I think of Scripture.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — **hardly ever**

Yellow — **sometimes**

Green — **most of the time**

SLOW DOWN TO THINK

It's time to introduce the new coach to the whole school in an assembly. And it's your job to introduce him. What will you say about him? Make a list of things you might tell about him. How is your job like John the Baptist's job?

GO FOR THE BIBLE FACTS

Right here, right now, write Galatians 5:22-23 from memory.

What New Testament book is about being ready for Jesus?

On your Bible map, mark the Jordan River, Dead Sea, and Sea of Galilee with an X..