

**Gospel Community Questions:**

1. After reading **Matt 3:1-12**, share what one thought stands out as the most important, encouraging, challenging, puzzling or convicting for you. Why?
2. How does the physical description of John the Baptist affect the way you view him as a person? Does he remind you of yourself or the opposite?
3. In what ways are you a type of “John the Baptist”? In what ways was John the Baptist Preparing the hearts of the people around him for the coming of Jesus?
4. In what ways can you prepare the hearts of the people around you for Christ this Christmas season?

**Upcoming Events:**

- Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> - Joint Christmas in Warman – Legends Centre at 10:45 am.
- Baptisms – Tuesday, Dec. 22nd at 7 pm at the Fellowship Baptist Church Building at 905 Taylor St. E.
- January 9<sup>th</sup> – Porterbrook Gospel-centered Bible classes begin. Get information and register here: <http://gracesask.com/porterbrook>
- January 10<sup>th</sup> – Partnership Sunday

**Needs:**

- If you have a desire and willingness to serve in any area (Grace kids, sound, music, video, greeting), start by filling out our online form here: <http://gracesask.com/serve/>

**Get connected:**

- Get on “The City” (our social network). Send your email request to [info@gracesask.com](mailto:info@gracesask.com) or ask your Gospel Community leader to add you.

Got Questions? Talk to your Gospel Community leader or email [info@gracesask.com](mailto:info@gracesask.com) afterwards

**1. Johns Intro (verses 1-6)**

- John is preaching in the wilderness with a simple message, seems as though having a culturally relevant message and a culturally relevant space was not important.
- His message was in preparation for Jesus Christ. (verse 3)
- Isaiah Prophecies about him in Isaiah 40:3
- Nothing physical about John is attractive, He is in the wilderness (not where most people would be) He reminds me of a crazy person. Even his message is harsh, yet people came to see him in the desert!
- John was the like the “Opening Band” for Jesus, he was not the headlining act, but he drew people to the main thing, Jesus Christ.

**2. We are all “John the Baptists”**

- What drew people to John was not his physical appearance and message. John Was filled with the Holy Spirit, who was the driving force behind Johns ministry. (Luke 1:15)
- If we have given our lives over to Jesus Christ, We are all filled with the Holy Spirit. This should be what draws others to Jesus. Not our nice house, our nice personality, our talents or our money. The Holy Spirit needs to drive our mission. (Luke 22:49)

**3. Johns Message (7-12)**

- Johns message seems so harsh, and yet it cut the people to the heart and it convicted them (Luke 3:10-14)
- The Holy Spirit does the convicting, as we see in Johns message.
- What “message” are we delivering this Christmas season? Are we pointing to Christ in all aspects of our lives, are we drawings people to the real reason for our celebration this year?
- Christ is coming again, we may seem a little crazy when we we share the gospel, sort of like “Crazy” John the baptist. We may not be the most talented, or we may not feel like we “know enough” to share the gospel, but when filled with the Holy Spirit, even our weak efforts can be used by God.

~ Quote ~

““The issue with an assumed gospel is that it is often too personal and, therefore, becomes private. People who live under the assumption of the gospel often know how it relates to their life, but nobody else does. Their kids never see how the gospel affects decisions, arguments, finances, etc. Their neighbors never hear of the hope within. Their coworkers are left to wonder about what makes them different. Those who live under the assumed gospel often find it awkward to bring it up and talk about the work of Christ. Why? Because they never bring it up and learn to articulate the implications of Christ’s atoning work and their life.”

— **Matt Chandler, *The Explicit Gospel***

Next Sunday, December 20: Luke 1:26-38