

Jesus Series
Lesson 1: Introduction and Preface - Luke 1-4

Individual Study

Luke 1 Meet John the Baptist

Luke 2 Birth of Jesus

Jesus to the Temple 8 days old and 12 years old

Luke 3 John the Baptist *Prepare the way of the Lord . . .*

Baptism of repentance

Baptism of Jesus *The heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended . . . "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased"*

Luke 4 Temptations of Jesus *Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit . . . was led by the Spirit into the wilderness . . .*

The Holy Spirit has already been spoken of in Luke's Gospel:

John the Baptist

Elizabeth

Mary the mother of Jesus

Zechariah

Simeon

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee . . .

Jesus in Nazareth Synagogue

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

4:43 *I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God . . . for I am sent for this purpose.*

For Your Reflection:

Read Hebrews 12:1-2. Close your eyes (if that is helpful) and spend 2-3 minutes “gazing” on Jesus in your imagination.

Write whatever comes to mind: What do you see as you “gaze” on Jesus?

As you think about John the Baptist’s message of repentance:

What is repentance?

What the connection between John’s call to repentance and the arrival of Jesus with Jesus’ stated purpose: *To preach the good news of the kingdom of God.* (Luke 4:43)

Remembering this reflection is just between you and the Lord, what repentance is still happening in your own life and you more and more understand and engage the kingdom of God as a follower of Jesus?

What is your hope and anticipation as you begin this journey through the Gospel stories of Jesus?