

The Baptism of Jesus

Group Study Guide
Gospel of Luke Series

Main text: Luke 3:21-23

Supporting texts: Romans 6:1–14

This weekend, Pastor Jonathan focused on the 3 verses that tell the story of Jesus baptism. He was baptized by John in the Jordan river, and the the Holy Spirit descended like a dove and the voice of the voice of the Father said “This is my son whom I love, in who I am well pleased.” There are 2 big ideas here: baptism and the love & affirmation of the Father.

Questions:

- If you have been baptized, share what it was like with the group.
- When John baptized Jesus in Luke 3:21-23, Jews already had a history of baptizing Gentile converts but what John was doing was new: he was preaching that *Jews* should repent and be baptized. Why do you think he did this?
- Jesus didn’t have any sins to repent of but he was baptized anyway. He was adding a new layer of meaning by the baptism by using it to prophetically point to his death, burial and resurrection. Paul expands this idea in Romans 6:1–14. Read and discuss the ways in which our baptism is participating in the death and resurrection of Christ.
- In Paul’s view, what commitment are we making in baptism? (See verse 11)
- After being baptized, the Holy Spirit descended like a dove and the voice of the voice of the Father said “This is my son whom I love, in who I am well pleased.” This happened before the start of the ministry of Jesus. Discuss what this is showing us about the love of the Father?
- How has your experience of parental love shaped how you view God’s love?
- How can we better live from the love affirmation and acceptance of the Father’s love in our lives?