

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 20, 2008

Passage: Luke 3:15-38

Memory Passage: John 14:6

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 3:15-20.** What did many of the people think about who John was? Why would they think this?
- (b) What did John tell them about his role (also see John 1:19-28)? How did he compare himself with that of the “One who is coming?” What does this tell you about John’s attitude about himself (Romans 12:3; John 3:29-30)?
- (c) What will be the difference between John’s baptism and the Messiah’s? What is the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:13)?
- (d) What will be the Messiah’s role in judgment (Luke 3:17; John 5:26-27; Acts 10:42; Acts 17:31)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 3:15-20 and Romans 12:3. How did John view himself and his ministry? Discuss humility. What should be our attitude toward what God does in our lives? Pray that God will show you areas of pride in your life that you need to deal with so that His grace might shine through.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 3:21.** What would be some reasons why Jesus might have been baptized? What was John’s baptism for? Why would Jesus do this?
- (b) Read Matthew 3:13-15. What does John’s response tell us about what he realized about the baptism of Jesus?
- (c) Why did Jesus tell John to permit it now? What was Jesus fulfilling by being baptized? What does this tell you about the reason for baptism—is it to remove sin or to bear a testimony?
- (d) Read Matthew 28:18-20. What did Jesus tell his disciples to do? Was baptism included in his command? What does this tell us about the priority that he placed on baptism?
- (e) Read Acts 8:36-38. What was the one requirement for being baptized? Does baptism come before or after salvation?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 3:31 and Matthew 3:13-15. Talk together about baptism. What does it do for us? Can it save? Why is it important? Why was Jesus baptized? Pray that you might be a testimony to the Lord this week.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 3:21-22.** What three signs are given as testimony to Jesus at his baptism?
- (b) What happened at the baptism to witness to who he was? Was this for Jesus or for everyone else?
- (c) What additional details are we given about his baptism in John 1:24-34?
- (d) Why does John say that Jesus was preferred before him (has a higher rank, NASB)? What is strange about this unless Jesus is God?
- (e) What prophetic word from Psalm 2:7-12 does this voice fulfill? What warning does God end this Psalm with?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 3:21-22 and Psalm 2. What are some of the reasons that Jesus must be God? What are some of the evidences that he is God come in the flesh? What had God said about His Son in Psalm 2? What did Jesus say about himself in John 14:6? Pray together for someone who needs to come to faith in Jesus.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) Read Luke 9:28-37. What evidences of who Jesus was are given here?
- (b) Who are the other two seen with Jesus? What is significant about these? What were they talking about? What does this tell us about the reason for Jesus’ coming?
- (c) What happens after the voice comes from heaven? What else does this confirm for these disciples?
- (d) What does Peter say about this experience in 2 Peter 1:17-18? What did Peter say we should put our greatest confidence in (2 Peter 1:19-21)?
- (e) Read John 12:23-32. What was Jesus talking about when the voice came from heaven? What does this also tell us about the reason Jesus came? Did everyone hear the voice?
- (f) *Family:* Luke 9:28-37 and John 12:23-32. What is the main purpose for Jesus becoming man? What evidences do we see in these passages that he was God in the flesh? What are some other evidences we have in the gospels that witness to the deity of Jesus? Pray for missionaries who are telling others about the salvation that is found through Jesus alone.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 3:23-38.** Compare the genealogies in Matthew (1:2-16) and Luke 3. What are the similarities? What are the differences?
- (b) Is there a difference in the way that Joseph's lineage is described in Matthew 1:16 and in Luke 3:23?
- (c) What was Joseph's lineage in Matthew 1:6? Which son of David was he descended from? What would that make him the legal heir to? Compare this with Luke 3:31: which son of David does Jesus descend from in this genealogy?
- (d) What curse did God place on Jechoniah in Jeremiah 22:30 that would prohibit anyone from his seed sitting on the throne? How does Jesus not being descended from Jechoniah's line (the kingly line) allow him to sit on David's throne? How does the virgin birth allow him to still be physically descended from David (Romans 1:4; Luke 3:31)?
- (e) Matthew's genealogy begins with Abraham while Luke ends with Adam. Who was Matthew's gospel written for? Who did Luke write for (Luke 1:1-4)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 3:23-38 and Jeremiah 22:30 and talk together about why Jesus had to be descended from David legally and physically. How does the virgin birth fulfill these two requirements? Praise God together for all the ways that He has marvelously planned out our redemption!

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Luke 3:15-38. What was the main difference between John's baptism and the baptism of Jesus? What is the difference in their ministries? Why did John come? Why did Jesus come? What are some of the evidences that God has given to show Jesus is the Messiah? Pray that God's Word might be clear to all who hear it tomorrow.

DATE: January 20, 2008

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The Ministry of the Messiah
"You are my beloved son in whom I am well-pleased."