



LUKE CHAPTER 3 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What is one thing that you hope for that you know with absolute certainty is going to happen?
- What is one thing that you hope for that you doubt will actually happen?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Luke 3:1-38)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Luke 3:1-14

- All of the leaders that Luke references in the first two verses of the chapter prior to his mention of John the Baptist have one very big and important thing in

common. They were all morally bankrupt, some to greater degrees than others. Why do you think Luke starts with these types of leaders right before he introduces John the Baptist and Jesus?

- While Luke was concerned about history, He was more concerned with painting the picture that a new and new kingdom were being ushered in. This new era and kingdom weren't going to be based upon corrupt, abusive, and oppressive power systems. Rather, they were going to be based upon God, His plan, and His righteousness.
- What systems are you tempted to put more trust in than God and His kingdom?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- One very important word that characterized the ministry of John the Baptist was repentance. Why do you think this word was so important, especially regarding the coming of Jesus Christ.
 - John's message and mission weren't to make people feel guilty about their sin. Repentance had and has everything to do with a change in mindset and a change in direction. John the Baptist wanted people to understand that Jesus' life and ministry was going to call them to action, action that wasn't rooted in just feeling a certain type of way but action that was rooted in a surrendered life to Jesus.
 - In what ways do you think it's difficult for Christians to daily practice repentance? In what ways do you daily practice repentance?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- What is significant about multitudes of Jewish individuals coming to John to be baptized?
 - Baptism was not an unfamiliar concept to Jews but what was uncommon was that Jews were actually submitting to baptism. Typically, this was seen as what Gentiles needed to do in order to convert to Judaism. So, baptism for the Jew was a radical rededication of themselves to God. It was indicative of their submission and surrender into what God had for them.

- Put yourself in the shoes of a Jewish individual when John the Baptist came onto the scene. What do you think would have been difficult for you about accepting repentance and baptism?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice what John says to the people in verses 10-14 when they ask him what they should do? Why is this important for us to understand today?
 - John didn't tell these individuals to go and do these "huge" things for God. Rather, he encourages them to have integrity in the ordinary things of their everyday lives. This is important for us to understand because many times, we are looking for the "big" ways in which to serve God and He desires that we serve Him in all things, what's considered the "small" and "ordinary" ways.

Luke 3:14-38

- Notice what is said about John the Baptist in verses 19-20 and his interactions with Herod the tetrarch. What does this say about John the Baptist's character and integrity?
 - It didn't matter to John how influential and powerful someone was. He was going to speak the truth regardless of what it cost him, personally and socially.
 - In what areas of your life do you need to be more like John the Baptist in this regard?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- One of the important things to notice about the genealogy of Jesus is that Luke traces Jesus' genealogy all the way back to Adam and this was intentional and is going to be a mark of the rest of Luke's gospel. Luke desired his readers to understand that Jesus wasn't just for the Jews. He was a Savior for all of humanity and this was the plan before the foundation of the world beginning with Adam. No one matters more and no one matters less to Jesus.
 - What do you find encouraging about the fact that no one matters more, and no one matters less to Jesus? What do you find challenging about this?

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Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time.

Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week. (Luke chapter 4)

LUKE CHAPTER 3 (STUDENT)

Luke 3:1-14

- All of the leaders that Luke references in the first two verses of the chapter prior to his mention of John the Baptist have one very big and important thing in common. They were all morally bankrupt, some to greater degrees than others. Why do you think Luke starts with these types of leaders right before he introduces John the Baptist and Jesus?
 - What systems are you tempted to put more trust in than God and His kingdom?

- One very important word that characterized the ministry of John the Baptist was repentance. Why do you think this word was so important, especially regarding the coming of Jesus Christ.
 - In what ways do you think it's difficult for Christians to daily practice repentance? In what ways do you daily practice repentance?

- What is significant about multitudes of Jewish individuals coming to John to be baptized?
 - Put yourself in the shoes of a Jewish individual when John the Baptist came onto the scene. What do you think would have been difficult for you about accepting repentance and baptism?
 - Notice what John says to the people in verses 10-14 when they ask him what they should do? Why is this important for us to understand today?

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What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?