



## Week of February 5 - a

### Scripture: Mt 3:4-6

**Main Idea:** Here we see the prophet John the Baptist preparing the way for people to accept Jesus. He preached the **need to turn from sin (repent) and people did (“confessing their sins”)**.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** John was having people confess their sins and was baptizing them. When you do something wrong, is it hard to admit that you made a mistake?

**Grade school:** Why does it tell us what he was wearing? What he ate? Maybe it was John’s way of not caring about being comfortable and wearing the right clothes. His concern was that people repent of their sins. What does it mean to repent? (A: to feel bad for doing wrong and turn back to doing right)

**Teen:** Is it hard for you to admit when you are wrong? What was God’s solution (given through John the Baptist) for people at that time regarding their past sins? (A: to repent)

**Adult:** Why is it so hard to admit when we sin? What happens when we don’t admit our sin (at least to ourselves and God in prayer)?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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#### PRAY:

For the humility to repent [feel bad and turn back to doing right] and the help from God to please him with our life.

#### February Memory Verse:

##### Psalm 16:1-2 (ESV)

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”



## Week of February 5 - 6

### Scripture: Mt 3:7-10

**Main Idea:** John has harsh words for the Jewish leaders (Pharisees & Sadducees). But his message of the people's need to repent was for them too, in fact strongest for them. He tells them not to assume they will be saved just because they descended from Abraham, but to turn from their sin (repent) and then live ("bear fruit") like they have.

#### Questions

**Preschool:** Do you sometimes disobey a parent or grandparent and do what you know you are not supposed to do? What should you do then? (A: say you're "sorry" and try to do better)

**Grade school:** If you mess up and disobey your parents, and say you're "sorry," is there any way to show them that you really are? (A: yes, by doing better with your actions, i.e., "bear good fruit")

**Teen:** Is believing in Jesus, and being baptized, all you need to do to be a "good" Christian? What does John the Baptist mean when he talks about bearing fruit?

**Adult:** We are told elsewhere (James 3) that teachers will be judged with greater strictness. What steps should be taken to ensure we are teaching Biblically? Have you ever been in a class when you didn't think the lesson was scriptural? What did you do? Why? The Pharisees had schooling about the Law. Just because someone is knowledgeable doesn't mean they are someone to follow. Have you had someone in your life like this?

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

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#### PRAY:

For God to help us when we sin and fall short. And when we are sorry for our mistakes, for God to help us do better and "bear good fruit" in the future.

#### February Memory Verse:

##### Psalm 16:1-2 (ESV)

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."