

Lesson 4

John the Baptist | [Matthew 3:1-12](#)

START MEETING

- What is the longest period of time you spent in the wilderness of away from civilisation? What was it like?
- How would you like to have John the Baptist as your pastor? How would his dress code be accepted in you church?

READ AND DISCUSS BIBLE

1. What do Isaiah's prophecies (Isaiah 40:3-4) regarding the arrival of Jesus tell us about the nature of the kingdom?
2. What is the "kingdom of heaven"?
3. Why did John the Baptist proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"?
4. How are people to respond to the news of the nearness of God's kingdom rule (Matthew 3:2, 6, 8)?

MATTHEW: THE DISCIPLEMAKER MANUAL

Sermon Series
Bible Study

PASSAGE FOCUS

Prepare yourself for the arrival of the Kingdom of God

STUDY GUIDE

LISTEN

Listen to this passage's sermon before you begin the study. If you missed it, you can watch the recording on the CPC Website or Youtube Channel.

REFLECT

Take some time to read through the passage and reflect on the questions.

SHARE

Answer the questions and share with your Life Group.

5. What does water baptism signify?

6. What is baptism of the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17, Acts 1:5, 8)?

7. What does 'baptism of fire' mean?

CLOSE MEETING

- Who has been a John the Baptist in your life? How did he or she prepare you to meet Jesus?

- How is repentance linked to your experience of salvation: In the past? Now? Where does repentance, to God and/or others, still need to happen in your life?

- Share your experience of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Reference:

1. Bible Study Fellowship notes on Matthew
2. Serendipity Bible, New International Version