JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY

Luke 3:1–20

Key Verse: 3:3

1. How does Luke introduce John’s ministry, and what do these details suggest? (1–2a) What happened to John, and what does this mean? (2b) What has Luke already told us about John? (1:13–17,76,80)
2. What was the main content of John’s ministry? (3) What is “repentance,” and how is it related to “the forgiveness of sins”? What does Luke add to this description, and how does it help us understand what it means to “prepare the way” for Jesus? (4–6)
3. In light of Isaiah’s prophecy, what was John’s specific message, and why did people need to hear this? (7–9) What does this tell us about God and about his people?
4. How did people respond to John, and what did he say to them? (10–14) What does it tell us about these people? What more can we learn here about the meaning of repentance?
5. What were people thinking? (15) How did John respond to this, and what do his words tell us about himself and about Jesus? (16) What else did he say, and what does it mean to us? (17) How did Luke characterize John’s preaching? (18) What happened as a result, and what can we learn from this? (19,20)