Luke Lesson 8 (2019)

**JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY**

Luke 3:1-18

Key Verse: 3:8

1. Read verses 1-2. What do the names of the political and religious leaders whom Luke mentions tell us about the times of John the Baptist? How did John prepare himself to challenge his times?
2. Read verses 3-6. What was John’s message? Why do you think that John preached a message of repentance? In what way had his ministry fulfilled the Scripture?
3. Read verses 7-9. What should people do to flee from the coming wrath? (7-8a) What does the phrase “produce fruit in keeping with repentance” mean? What might have hindered them from truly repenting? (8b) What does it mean that the ax is already at the root of the trees? (9)
4. Read verses 10-14. How did the people react to John’s message? (10) What advice did John give to those in the crowd who wanted to respond to his message? (11) 0) What practical advice did John give to tax collectors and soldiers? (12-14)
5. Read verses 15-18. In what way was John becoming famous? (15) What was John’s response to them? (16) How did John describe Jesus? What is the difference between the baptism of water and the baptism of the Holy Spirit? (17) What else did John do to prepare people for Jesus the Messiah? (18)