

THE Story

Lesson 5 Chapter 23 Jesus' Ministry Begins (Pt 1) p.321-325

1. On page 321, we are introduced to John the Baptist. His message was simple and straightforward...

What does it mean to "repent"?

What is "the kingdom of heaven"?

2. Based on his dress and menu, what is implied about the preparation of John the Baptist for his ministry?

3. What people have been like John the Baptist in your life? How did they prepare you to meet Jesus?

4. Why do you think Jesus wanted to be baptized?

Why was John hesitant to baptize Jesus?

5. How do we see the Trinity clearly at work in Jesus' baptism?

How do you link this moment with the cross? (Check out Luke 12:50; II Corinthians 5:21)

6. Consider the temptations of Jesus recorded on page 322 to the top of page 323 as a testing of the kind of ministry He was going to exercise. What was the special point in each temptation? How were they alike? How were they different?

Can you link these three typical temptations with the threefold division found in I John 2:16?

How does Satan use these three areas to tempt us as he did Adam and Eve?

How was Jesus able to resist Satan's temptations and what lesson is there for us?

7. On page 323 to the top of page 324 what are some of the ways John the Baptist sought to point others to Jesus and not to himself?

What is significant about the title "lamb of God"? (Check out Isaiah 53:7 and I Peter 1:19)

8. On page 324 to the middle of page 325, we are introduced to Jesus' first five disciples. One of them is unnamed....who might it have been?

Describe what it was that brought each of these men to Jesus?

Why do you think Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter?

9. How does Nathaniel (the gift of God) Bartholomew (son of Tholomai) illustrate the truths that our Master knows all about
our true character

our spiritual condition

our present circumstances?

10. As you review this portion of God's inspired Word, what truths do you learn about our humanity....sins to avoid & examples to follow

about our God... His promises to claim & His character to embrace