

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS

Luke is an 'orderly account' of the life of Jesus, and the way of life Jesus invites us into. As we SEE Him, so we see the implication of those words "come follow me." We will kick off 2024 from chapter 3 and work our way through this gospel account.



WHEN YOU MEET:

This discussion relates to the teaching from Sunday 18 February

SERMON: grlc.org.au/grlc-hub/

TESTIMONY TIME: Have one person in the group share what they've been learning about Jesus.

PRAY: Share praise points and pain points, and think about who else around us might need prayer (e.g. Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine, Myanmar)

READ: Luke 3:1-20

DISCUSS: *NOTE: the sermon-specific questions are on the next page...*

1. What especially challenges or inspires you in this passage and why?
2. What does this passage reveal about being God's people in Australia today?
3. What does this passage say about finding and sustaining unity as God's people?
4. What does this passage reveal about identity or purpose as God's people?
5. How does this passage lead you to a greater reliance on the Holy Spirit?

PRAY: Take 10 minutes to work through Examen together. You may want to allow a few moments afterwards for people to share what happened. Find more information and audio files on the website:

<https://grlc.org.au/2020/10/08/daily-examen/>

MORE RESOURCES:

- Discipleship Resources Hub: grlc.org.au/discipleship-resources/
- Latest sermon: <https://grlc.org.au/grlc-hub/>





SERMON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

1. Malachi was the last prophet in the Old Testament before John (see Malachi 4:5-6), and there were around 400 years of silence before Jesus arrived. What does this tell us about God? How do you feel about God's silence here or in your own circumstances?
2. Israel's crossing the Red Sea (see Exodus 14) and the Jordan River (see Joshua 3) - they were both crossings through water into new life. John's baptism in the Jordan was also a deeply symbolic act of repentance and new life (see Luke 3:3). Now read Luke 3:7-8. Why might John's message be offensive to many Jewish people? What is he challenging in the Jewish culture of his day? What is the challenge for those of us who go to church today also?
3. Read Luke 3:10-14. How would you define repentance? What does John mean by producing fruit in keeping with repentance? Apply it to your life today in three spaces: your family, your workplace, your money.
4. Read Luke 3:19-20. John's rebuke of Herod got him thrown in prison and then eventually executed. You could discuss either:
 - a. Did he do the right thing?
 - b. How would you go about challenging someone who is causing significant harm to others, say at your work or among your circle of family or friends?
 - c. Prison and death - Is this the kind of outcome you would expect for someone Jesus spoke so highly of?