

**TO HELP US STUDY**

1. Where did John begin his preaching? \_\_\_\_\_  
Near what river? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What were John's clothes made of? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did he eat? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did many people come to hear him preach? \_\_\_\_\_ What did he do to them? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What did he call the church leaders (the Pharisees and Sadducees)? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What did he tell the common people to do? (Lk 3:11) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did he tell the tax collectors to do? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did he tell the soldiers to do? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Why did John want the people to be good? Who was coming? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Why should we be good? \_\_\_\_\_

**TO HELP US REMEMBER:** *Young ones*—Matthew 3:3, "Prepare the way for the Lord; make straight paths for him."

*Older ones*—Luke 3:15-16

**TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT**

On the back of this sheet write a short essay telling how the baptism of John differed from that commanded by Jesus, and how they resembled each other. Make a similar comparison of the preaching of these two great men.

**TIPS FOR TEACHING PARENTS**

Are you having trouble getting your very young children to pay attention to your storytelling? Here are a couple of suggestions to help us.

First, we must be sure we don't defeat ourselves by trying to teach too long at one sitting. The attention span of toddlers is quite short, and they are easily distracted. Our job will be easier if we remove all distractions from the storytelling area before we start.

Then, instead of beginning with the story itself, it may help if we start off by calling our kids' attention to something in their normal day-to-day experience. This week, for example, we might begin by saying, "We have to get ready for good things, don't we? When Grandma comes to visit from out of town, we have to clean up the house. When Christmas comes, we spend several weeks putting up a tree and buying gifts. If we want to grow up to be a teacher or a doctor, we will have to spend a lot of time in school getting ready. That's how it was when Jesus came into our world to preach to people. They had to get ready for Him. . . ." This kind of lead-in to our teaching sessions can establish a link between our children and the story that adds an extra element of interest for them. Then we are ready to tell the story.

**FOR ADULT STUDY:** 1 Sam 7:3; Isa 40:3; Hos 10:12; Mal 3:1; Lk 12:34-36; Mt 25:1-10.