

Name: _____

Date: _____

JESUS PREPARES FOR THE MINISTRY – BAPTISM AND TEMPTATION

“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’” (Luke 4:4)

Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	Understand the baptism of Jesus and how Jesus responded to the temptations of Satan by using God’s word.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is mighty and righteous. He is without sin, but shares in our humanity.
<i>Good Work</i>	Receive baptism, be anointed by the Holy Spirit, and store God’s word in our hearts to resist temptation.

A. The Baptism of Jesus (Mt 3:13–17)

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by proclaiming His coming and baptizing those who wished to reconcile with God. His baptism was for the purpose of repentance (Jn 3:5–6). Jesus, the Lamb of God, needed no repentance, so why did He insist that John baptize Him, despite John’s refusal?

1. It was a fulfillment of God’s law, which allowed Jesus to fulfill God’s righteousness.
2. It served as an example, to show that we must be baptized to become the children of God, and to receive the Holy Spirit (Gal 3:26–27; 4:6–7; Rom 8:16).
3. It served as a testimony that Jesus was mightier than John (Mt 3:11). John could only assure them of forgiveness upon repentance, but the baptism of the Holy Spirit can purify and cleanse the heart, changing our lives forever.

B. The Temptation of Jesus (Lk 4:1–13)

1. *The Three Temptations*

Jesus’ temptations teach us that even when filled with the Holy Spirit we must be wary of Satan, and that Jesus Himself can sympathize with our weaknesses (Heb 2:14–18).

2. *Understanding Satan’s Schemes*

We as God’s children must understand God’s will and His word, because Satan is also well versed in Scripture and may misuse it to deceive us, just like he tried to deceive Jesus. Even if we have already overcome temptation, we need to continue to prepare ourselves by learning God’s word and relying on the Holy Spirit (Eph 6:10–18; 1 Pet 5:8–9).

Life Application

1. **Repentance:** Repentance consists of sincere sorrow over sin (2 Cor 7:10–11), confession (Ps 32:5), and change of action (Acts 26:20).
2. **The Works of the Holy Spirit:** The Spirit cleanses God’s people (Isa 4:3–4). He is like fire, testing men’s hearts (Mal 3:2), and He will convict the world (Jn 16:8–11).
3. **Victory over Temptation:** Jesus’ responses to His temptations show us how we too can destroy Satan’s schemes in our lives.
 - a. Store God’s word in our hearts and know God’s will (Ps 119:11)
 - b. Have a sincere heart that loves and worships God the highest King, and obey His commandments (Jn 14:15, 21, 30)
 - c. Be faithful to God and do not love the world or the things that are in the world (1 Jn 2:15–17)

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Lesson 2 Homework Assignment

Jesus Prepares for the Ministry—Baptism and Temptation

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Luke 4:4):

1. What does it mean to “live...by every word of God”?
2. What was the purpose of John’s baptism? Why was he unwilling to baptize Jesus at first?
3. Why did God want Jesus to experience temptation in the desert?
4. Pick one temptation and explain how Satan hoped to lure or trap Jesus. How did Jesus respond?
5. What are the three major human weaknesses that Satan uses to tempt us? How do we defend ourselves?
6. Name a temptation you have faced or face at home and write which human weakness Satan is using based on the above question. How can you fight this temptation?