

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE

February 11, 2024

The Gospel of Luke | Luke 3:1-6

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S U M M A R Y

This past weekend we looked at the placing of the story of gospel in time and space, seeing it as a story rooted to a real time and a real place. We looked at how Luke is once again saying that there are no outsiders, and how we need to be people who are preparing the way of the Lord for ourselves and others.

R E A D

Luke 3:1-6

Pause. Take time to prayerfully consider what has been read.

D I S C U S S

- 1) What must it have felt like to be a first century Jew in the socio-political climate of Luke 3:1-2?
- 2) What comes to mind when you hear the word repentance? What do you associate with it?
- 3) Matt talked about how John's baptism may have been rooted in proselyte baptism (the initiation rite of Gentiles to become Jewish). How might have Jewish listeners (insiders) responded to the instruction to become like outsiders to enter the Kingdom of God?

Read Isaiah 40:1-5. God is bringing comfort to those who are in exile by telling them that he will bring them home.

- 4) How does this context shape or re-shape your understanding of "preparing the way"?

- 5) What do we need comfort for in our own sense of exile?
- 6) Repentance is an invitation to change the direction or true north of your life, to turn from broken ways and come home to God through Jesus. What difference does this definition make to you?

R E S P O N D

Ask the Spirit, what do I need to do to prepare the way of the Lord for me?

Who are you inviting me to prepare the way of the Lord for?

*Share how the Spirit is inviting you to respond today and the week to come – to **be with** Jesus, to **become like** Jesus, or to **do what** Jesus does.*

P R A Y

If Jesus is calling someone to repentance, give them space to share their confession and respond by praying blessing over them.

Take time to wait and pray together. What is Jesus praying for? Come into agreement with His prayers.

