



A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of January 13, 2019

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 Baptized

This week, Steve Shelby preached on <u>Luke 3:15-17</u>, 21-22

- What is happening in this passage?
- First, there is the issue of the order of events.
 - The Baptism is recorded for us after Luke tells us that John has been locked up: "So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison." (<u>Luke 3:18-20</u>)
 - Note also that Jesus' baptism comes "when all the people" (21) were baptized.
 - o This is a decisive moment. John is decreasing and Jesus is increasing.
- The next question is this: If John's baptism is a baptism of repentance, then why should Jesus be baptized? Jesus was
 the sinless Lamb of God, after all.
- Why the Jordan?
 - o Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Naaman
 - o It is a place of transition, both in the history of God's work and in my own personal history.
- Jesus is identifying Himself with those who repent. So much so, that He is placing Himself in our place.
- Who are those who repent? Identifying with those who have been judged sinners.
- "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (II Corinthians 5:21)
- What is the bigger event here?
- Jesus gets baptized
- Jesus prays
- "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (<u>Luke 11:13</u>)
- The Holy Spirit comes like a dove
- The delight of the Father

WEPC Lectionary Project: Union with Christ

West End Presbyterian Church is using the Scripture readings recommended by the Revised Common Lectionary as a framework for our corporate worship and our personal and family devotion. This project is part of WEPC's 25th Anniversary Year and will run from December 2018 through November 2019. The Lectionary gives us access to the whole counsel of Scripture and these texts are a means for us to grow in our understanding of our union with Christ.

To learn more and subscribe to a daily email of Daily Scripture Readings, visit www.wepc.org/lectionary.

Sunday, January 13, 2019

First Sunday after the Epiphany: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7

Passing Through the Waters

Psalm 29

All Cry Glory

Acts 8:14-17

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Baptism of Jesus

Reflection on Sunday, January 13

Monday

Judges 4:1-16
Not a Man was Left

Ephesians 6:10-17
The Whole Armor of God

Tuesday

Judges 5:12-21
The Ancient Torrent

I John 5:13-21

We Are In Him Who Is True

Wednesday

Numbers 27:1-11 *Give to Us a Possession*

Luke 11:33-36

Your Whole Body is Full of Light

Daily

Psalm 106:1-12

He Led Them Through the Deep

Preparation for Sunday, January 20

Thursday

Jeremiah 3:1-5
You Refuse to be Ashamed

Acts 8:18-24

Pray for Me to the Lord

Friday

Jeremiah 3:19-25

You Have Been Treacherous to Me

I Corinthians 7:1-7

Marriage

Saturday

Jeremiah 4:1-4

To Me You Should Return

Luke 11:14-23

A Sign from Heaven

Daily

Psalm 36:5-10

Feast on the Abundance of Your House