

Spiritual Engineering



GROWTH GUIDE DECEMBER 8, 2024

The Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Luke 3:1-18

AUTHOR

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CONTEXT

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Today we light the 2nd candle on the Advent Wreath as a reminder of peace. Do you find yourself craving peace in this Advent Season? What challenges your sense of peace?
2. Read Luke 3:1-18. What word or phrase stands out to you?
3. What came to John in the wilderness and what was his response?

4. Baptism is an outward sign of an inward transformation of our lives. What signs of transformation do you see in those who have asked forgiveness and repented (turned away from sin)?
5. In John's day, before a king would take a trip, messengers would tell those he was planning to visit to prepare the roads for him. John told his listeners to make their lives ready so the Lord could come to them. To prepare the way means clearing aside the baggage of the past and the doubts of the present in order to let the King come into your life. (From Life Application Study Bible) What do you need to clear out of your life right now to make room for the Lord in this busy season of Advent?
6. Confession of sins and a life that is changed go together. A truly transformed life bears fruit. What does James 2:14-26 say about this?
7. Read Luke 3:10-14 again. John's message calls for 3 responses to the question: What should we do? What are they? How can we apply this to our own lives?
8. It had been hundreds of years since Israel had seen a prophet. It was believed that when the Messiah would come, prophecy would reappear. Read Joel 2:28, 29 and Malachi 3:1 and 4:5. John's appearance caused excitement and the people thought the age of the Messiah had come. Some people even thought that John the Baptist was the Messiah and they questioned him.
9. What was John's response to their questions?
10. What was the difference between how John baptized and how Jesus baptized?