**LUKE**

Week 1 - Luke Chapter 3

John the Baptist.  
  
  
Before we start off exploring John the Baptist, we should take a moment to reflect on the past few weeks and what we have discovered in the Christmas story.  
  
Is there anything that stood out in a fresh way for you this year?   
For some reason I found myself really struck by John 1:18 ’No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.’  
  
Please do share anything that really spoke to you over the Christmas celebrations of the Incarnation.  
  
Both Luke and John (John 1:19-28) use the story of John the Baptist to lead us into the ministry of the Lord Jesus.  
  
What do you think about / how do you understand the relationship between Jesus and John?   
  
There are various angles to this …  
1. The Old Testament prophecy (Isaiah 40:3-7)  
2. The family relationship between Mary and Elizabeth  
3. The Baptism of Jesus by John (Luke 3:21-22)  
4. Any other angles we should be thinking about?  
  
Why was Jesus baptised?  Interesting question!!  What do you think?  
  
I think this question from Tom Wright’s study guide is challenging  
….  “If John were to come down the Main Street of your town with a megaphone, what would he be saying?”  
Is this any different from the message of the church today?  
  
What stands out for you in the story of John the Baptist?