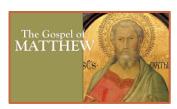
Inauguration Day

Matthew 3:1-17

Neil Trainer January 12, 2025



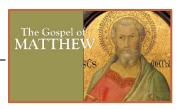
NOTES



Inauguration Day

Matthew 3:1-17

Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- What is the furthest from civilization you have ever been (e.g., camping, hiking, road trip)? Where did you go and for how long? What was it like?
- Read Matthew 3:1–17. What kind of person is John the Baptist? Why are the people flocking to him? Who might they expect him to be (cf. Mal. 4:5–6; 2 Ki. 1:8)?
- How would you paraphrase John's message for people today?
 How do you think people would respond?
- What are ways that Jesus is described and identified in this scene? What is revealed about who Jesus is and why he has come?
- Why is John reluctant to baptize Jesus? How does John's view of Jesus compare to yours? What might you learn from John?
- Why does Jesus seek baptism? How is his baptism different from others'? What does Jesus accomplish by being baptized?
- What is the relationship between repentance, confession of sin, and baptism? In what ways have each of these been a part of your life?
- If you are baptized, how can you remember God's gift to you in your baptism more frequently, and how could this nourish your faith? If you are not baptized, what might the Lord be inviting you to do next in response to what he has done for you?
- What part of John's message do you most need to hear? How might the Lord be inviting you to respond? How can your small group or others support you as you do?

^{*}Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.