

- 1 **Read Luke 3:1-6 together as a group.** Consider the following: *“Experiencing the forgiveness of sins, which is a foundational part of the gospel, comes to us through repentance. John offered a baptism that was not a magical ritual but represented a turning from sin on the part of the one being baptized. This is a matter of the heart. It is bad news for those who wish to earn God’s favor by religious actions. It is good news if we are willing to receive and experience the gospel at the level of the heart, turning away from our sins toward God.”* - Gospel Transformation Bible

⚙️ *Which part of John’s message did you, or do you, need to realize the most – the message that forgiveness is available to everyone, or the message that repentance is needed by everyone? Why?*

- 2 **John the Baptist was a bit of an outcast - he was raised in the desert, ate locust and honey, and wore a camel-hair garment.** Why do you think God chose someone like John to be Jesus’ forerunner?

🗣️ *Think about the training grounds God has taken you through to prepare you to do His will. What do you notice about those circumstances and how they have prepared you to do God’s will?*

⚙️ *What would have happened if John would have so pursued a perfect social identity that it eclipsed God’s plan for his life?*

♥️ *In what ways are you too dependent on what others think and say about you? How could that hinder you from fulfilling God’s will for your life?*

- 3 **How would you define “repentance” and what place does it have in the life of an unbeliever and the life of a believer?** Survey the following: Matthew 3:7–8, Micah 6:6-8, 2 Corinthians 5:17–21; Romans 6:6–11, Acts 19:4.

