

**Week 2 Questions**  
**Matthew Chapters 3-4**

1. As we have noted before, one of the distinctives of Matthew's gospel is that it makes multiple references to Jesus fulfilling Old Testament prophecy. Read Is 40:1-5 and John 1:23. In what ways does John the Baptist fulfill the prophecy of Is 40:3?
  - Baptism was something that was only required of Gentile proselytes, but John is preaching to his people the Jews, not to the Gentiles. What was John's message? What reason(s) does John give for this call?
  
2. Read Mat 3:1-10. What are the three evidences of Repentance given in these verses? Look up each of these three words in a dictionary and write a definition for each one that fits this context.
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3. Why do you think repentance is central to the gospel message? If any of these is missing has true repentance occurred?
  
  
4. Why does John rebuke the Pharisees and Sadducees?
  - What is the presumption that John addresses? (3:9)
  
  - How does John's rebuke in 3:7-10 apply to you?
  
  
5. Are you surprised that Jesus asks to be baptized? Why? What is John's response to Jesus' request to be baptized?
  - What is Jesus' response to John?
  
  - In your own words, what does "to fulfill all righteousness" mean?

6. What were the three miraculous events that occurred when Jesus was baptized? What do they signify to the world (and hopefully to you)?

7. Read Psalm 2. How does Psalm 2 inform us about who Jesus is and why he has been sent?

- How is Jesus' baptism different from John's Baptism?

8. What is the very first thing that Jesus does in preparation for his public ministry?

- Who led Jesus into the wilderness?
- In the chart below, note the three temptations Satan presents and the response of Jesus to each of them. In the middle column, note what potential weakness you think Satan hoped to exploit<sup>1</sup>.

<b>Temptation offered</b>	<b>Potential weakness targeted</b>	<b>Jesus' Response</b>
4:3		4:4
4:5-6		4:7
4:8-9		4:10

9. In what way are Jesus' temptations like your temptations? What do these interactions between Jesus and the Tempter teach you?

10. What is the response of those whom Jesus called to follow him? What was their response? How does that differ from your response to Jesus' call to you to follow Him?

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<sup>1</sup> The Village Church, *The Institute: Matthew Part 1*; 2017