Weekly Study Guide

The week of January 13, 2013

Daily Readings

Monday	Luke 3:21-22	Tuesday	Titus 3:5-7	Wednesday	Romans 8:14-16
Thursday	Matthew 3:13-17	Friday	Romans 6:3-11	Saturday	Galatians 3:26-29

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: The Wedding at Cana

Next week's readings: John 2

In this season of Epiphany we see many different revelation moments that show us, and the world just who this Jesus is! At the Wedding in Cana, Jesus first shows his power and his compassion not to those in power, but to the servants who are working behind the scenes at a wedding. What does this act shine about Jesus' character?



Read Luke 2:41-52. What does this story say to you about Jesus? In what ways do you think Jesus was growing in wisdom?

Between ages 12 and 30, Jesus worked as a carpenter in Nazareth. Imagine together for a moment what those years must have been like for Jesus, first as the 'carpenter's boy' and then as the oldest son of a widowed mother.

- What things do you think took up Jesus' time in these years?
- How do you think God was preparing him for his purpose through those years?

When the time came for Jesus to be commissioned to begin his work as the Messiah, Jesus went down to the Jordan to be baptized by John. The four different versions of this event by the Gospel writers works much like the different sides of a diamond; each cut a little differently to let us see a different aspect of Jesus' character. What do you learn about Jesus from each of these versions?

- Read Matthew 3:13-17. What was John's reaction? Who saw this commissioning?
- **Read Mark 1:9-11**. Who was impacted by this commissioning? Who saw the event?
- Read Luke 3: 21-22. Who witnessed this event?
- Read John 1:29-34. What was John's reaction? Who saw this event?

Through his baptism, Jesus was commissioned, John was validated, the people were amazed. Each of these elements important for different reasons.

In this Trinitarian moment, Jesus waits on God the Father, to be empowered by the Holy Spirit. Father, Son and Holy Spirit together do this Messianic work for the world.

Read John 14:15-31. In Jesus' death and resurrection, we are also called into the life of the Triune God. How does the Holy Spirit lead us from our baptism to our calling?

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Called: **Read Isaiah 43:1.** You have been called by name!

Claimed: Read 1 John 3:1 and 1 John 4:13-16. In faith we are claimed!

Commissioned: Read Romans 6:1-4. In Baptism you are commissioned to life a new life!

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Pray for those who are newly baptized in our community, that God would use our community of faith to help equip them to grow into the calling he has for each of them.

Pray for all of us to listen to the Holy Spirit, as we live out our callings in his name!