

# Daily Devotional



David Welsh | “Be \_\_\_\_\_” Part 3 | Jan. 23 . 24 | Luke 3:15-20

## ■ day one { wants vs. needs: Luke 3:15 }

Have you ever had to make a decision that would determine which way your life would go? Think back, what was that decision based on? Was it feelings, circumstances, the opinions of others or the truth of God’s Word? Why did people travel to hear John the Baptist? He certainly didn’t seem to be a charismatic speaker. What did the people WANT to hear from John? They wanted John to be the Messiah, to conquer Rome and free them from oppression. What did they NEED in a Messiah? The same things that we need in a Savior! John was preaching the truth. How do you know when you are hearing the truth of God’s word or just someone’s opinion?

## ■ day two { honor vs. service: Luke 3:16 }

What do you tell people when they ask who you are? Do you answer with a description of what you do? The people thought John might be the Messiah. Malachi 3:1 says “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me”. Why, then, would the people expect a Messiah without the messenger to prepare the way? Maybe they wanted “the result” without waiting upon God’s sequence & timing. Sound familiar? John deflected attention from himself to Jesus. Can you do that? How & when?

## ■ day three { glory to God: Psalm 23:3 }

Would you rather be an evangelist, preacher, an elder or a deacon (or deaconess)? Why? What considerations led you to this choice? Does ego influence your thinking about opportunities to serve God? Read Proverbs 15:25a. When you do a work for God, who gets the glory? John the Baptist knew what his mission was and gave all the glory to God. Can this be said of you?

## ■ day four { why baptism?: Luke 3:16 }

**What mental images come to mind when you think of the work “baptism”?** What does it have to do with repentance? John’s baptism (with water) signified repentance. John’s message was simple – there must be a change in your heart. How is this reflected in baptism? What does Jesus’ baptism (with the Holy Spirit & fire) signify? How might this be demonstrated in your life?

## ■ day five { God is Sovereign!: Luke 3:17 }

**Have you had to stand up for right even in the face of serious consequences?** John’s message was urgent. God’s judgment was coming and you must have a new life. It was time to choose. The wheat & the chaff in this passage represent that which is saved and that which is burned up. How can you be SURE of your status? Are you wheat or chaff? In Luke 3: 19-20, John (as a messenger from God) rebukes Herod for his sin. What give God the right to judge Herod? To judge you and me? God’s sovereignty! Read Daniel 4: 34b – 35.

## ■ a word from the writers

This daily devotional and a weekly bible study for Life Groups that coincides with the current sermon is also available on the church website: [ccc.org](http://ccc.org). We loved to hear your comments or suggestions. Email the writing team at: [lampr@ccc.org](mailto:lampr@ccc.org).