

DAY 1

PREPARE TO WITNESS THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

PRAYER



Jesus, I am on this journey to find wholeness
and life in you.

Take these weeks and shape my life around your life.
Be my teacher and guide.

Take a few minutes of silence. In your own words, ask God to meet
you here.

READING



In those days John the Baptist came to the Judean wilderness and began preaching. His message was, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near." The prophet Isaiah was speaking about John when he said, "He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord's coming! Clear the road for him!'"

—MATTHEW 3:1-3

RESPONSE

After reading those verses, what are your first impressions? How would you have responded to John the Baptist's message? Write down anything that comes to your mind about the passage.

INSIGHT



Each of the Gospels records an event in history—the story of the life and ministry of Jesus, a Jewish man from Nazareth, who lived in Israel in the first century. In the writer's eyes this was the biggest event in world history, but especially in Jewish history.

Ancient prophecy played a large part in how first century Jewish people saw life. One of the Jewish prophets foretold that there would be a person like the great prophet Elijah to prepare the way for the Messiah. John the Baptist fulfilled this role, challenging people to repent from their sins so that they would be prepared to receive the Messiah when he came. Jesus described his mission when He read from Isaiah in the synagogue in his hometown:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come.”

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. Then he began to speak to them. “The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!”

—LUKE 4:18-20

As we hear his words it becomes clear that miracles will be a central part of his ministry. Jesus used miracles to reveal the one true God, and through the Scriptures, you have the opportunity to see that God for yourself.

REFLECTION ❁

As you prepare yourself to witness the miracles of Jesus, what are you hoping you'll discover through this journey?

In what areas of your life are you hoping to find life, healing, and wholeness?

Take a few minutes to write a letter to God, expressing what you hope to learn from Jesus' miracles. Ask for wisdom to apply the lessons to your own life.