



Matthew 3:1–10 *Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³ For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said, "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!'" ⁴ Now John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan; ⁶ and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; ⁹ and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ The axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. (NASB)*

I. John was _____

- A. John was _____ . (Matthew 3:1–3)
- B. John was _____ . (Matthew 3:4)
- C. John was _____ . (Matthew 3:5–7)
- D. John preached _____ . (Matthew 3:8–10)

II. John had _____

Matthew 3:11–12 *"As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire... ¹² His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (NASB)*

III. John was an _____

Matthew 3:13–17 *Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan coming to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ But John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answering said to him, "Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he permitted Him. ¹⁶ After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, ¹⁷ and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased." (NASB)*

John 5:35 *But the testimony which I have is greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me. (NASB)*



DOGGY BAG

Something to take home and chew on!

1. Do you know a Savior who is mightier than you? What does that mean for your life? How does knowing One who is “mightier than you” guide your life?
2. What would your life look like if you lived with the understanding that there is One mightier than you? How would that change the way you see obstacles in life? How would it change the way you see success in life? How would it change the way that you deal with defeats in life?
3. How have I experienced the power of grace in my life? How can I live by the power of grace?

Take a step in faith this week:

- **Let us know you are here today.** Fill out a Connection Card every Sunday through either the Christ Church app or the Connection Card tab in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform (LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG).
- **Go to our weekly online bulletin** and get involved with mission and ministry this week. Use the Christ Church app, or the Resources tab* in top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform, to access the current edition each week.
- Join your pastors and church family as we **Read Through the New Testament in 2024**, using the YouVersion Bible App to read together and encourage one another along the way. Learn more and sign up: bit.ly/readthebible2024
- As part of our current and incoming annual Bible reading plan, join us live online at LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG each weekday at noon for **Midday Prayer** (soon to be known as **Online Daily Bible Study**), where our pastors discuss our daily readings.
- **Sign up to serve!** Contact Bev at badams@christchurchva.org for suggestions.

*Quick link to Connection Resources: CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/CONNECT-WITH-US