



The Forgotten Jesus Podcast Discussion Guide

Season 4, Episode 7

The Wild Man in the Wilderness, John the Baptist

Today we're going back to Matthew to look at a strange character in the Gospel accounts, John the Baptist.

Introduction

Recap: Last week on *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast*, we concluded our discussion on the Passover Pentecost paradigm and talked about biblical baptism.

Take a few minutes to discuss this week's episode and what stuck out to everyone.

1. What stands out to you the most about John the Baptist and why?

Discussion

Have someone read aloud [Matthew 3:1-8](#), [2 Kings 1:7-8](#), [Isaiah 40:2-3](#) and [Numbers 6:1-8](#).

1. How do these Old Testament passages contextualize the message John is sending through his clothes and lifestyle?
2. What was so revolutionary about John the Baptist's message, and how would this have differed from the prevailing message Jews would have heard?
3. In Hebrew, "repent" means a change of direction. In Greek, "repent" means a change of mindset. How do each of these highlight important aspects of repentance?
4. Why is repentance such a central theme of John's message and so closely connected with the Kingdom of God?



Application:

Take some time to apply what you have discussed.

1. What are examples of your own outward dependency on God others can see in your life?
2. Why is repentance such an important, yet often difficult part of our Christian life?
3. What fruit are you producing consistent with repentance, and what is something the Lord is calling you to repent of?

Pray

Share prayer requests and pray as a group at the end of your conversation. Here is a prompt:

1. Pray that the Lord would reveal sin we need to repent of. [Psalm 139:23-24](#)

The Forgotten Jesus Podcast Resources

Catch up on Seasons 1 - 3 and find out more about *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast*, including show notes, on *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast* [webpage](#).

Gospel Parallels by Throckmorton

Gospel Parallels highlights differences and similarities in language and chronology between the first three Gospels. You can buy it [here](#).

The Forgotten Jesus Book

Through the years, our understanding of Jesus has been shaped by different cultural influences, and many Christians have forgotten that Jesus was a Jewish man living in a Jewish land, observing Jewish customs, and investing his life into Jewish men and women. You can buy it [here](#).

