



Luke 3:1-3 NIV

1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—2 during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.



Luke 3:4-6 NIV

4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

5 Every valley shall be filled in,

every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,

the rough ways smooth.

6 And all people will see God’s salvation.’ ”



Luke 1:76-77 NIV

76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,
77 to give his people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,



I. Have a Realistic View of Oneself

Luke 3:1-2 NIV



1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—2 during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

Previous Scripture: Luke 1:76-77;

Luke 3:1-6



I. Have a Realistic View of Oneself John 1:19-21 NIV



19 Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. 20 He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

21 They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

Previous Scripture: Luke 3:1-2;

Luke 1:76-77; Luke 3:1-6



I. Have a Realistic View of Oneself

John 1:29-30 NIV



29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
30 This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”

Previous Scripture: John 1:19-21;

Luke 3:1-2; Luke 1:76-77



I. Have a Realistic View of Oneself

Luke 3:16 NIV



John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Previous Scripture: John 1:29-30;

John 1:19-21; Luke 3:1-2



I. Have a Realistic View of Oneself John 3:25-30 NIV



25 An argument developed between some of John's disciples and a certain Jew over the matter of ceremonial washing. 26 They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him."

27 To this John replied, "A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. 28 You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become greater; I must become less."

Previous Scripture: Luke 3:16;

John 1:29-30; John 1:19-21



II. Have a Correct View of Ministry Luke 3:3-5 NIV



3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

5 Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

Previous Scripture: John 3:25-30;

Luke 3:16; John 1:29-30



II. Have a Correct View of Ministry Matthew 11:11 NIV



Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



II. Have a Correct View of Ministry Isaiah 40:3-5 NIV



3 A voice of one calling:

“In the wilderness prepare
the way for the LORD;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.

5 And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.

For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Previous Scripture: Matthew 11:11;

Luke 3:3-5; John 3:25-30



III. Have an Understanding of the People's Needs



Luke 3:6 NIV

And all people will see God's salvation.' ”

Previous Scripture: Isaiah 40:3-5;
Matthew 11:11; Luke 3:3-5;



III. Have an Understanding of the People's Needs



Luke 1:14-17 NIV

14 He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, 15 for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. 16 He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”



III. Have an Understanding of the People's Needs



Acts 3:19-20 NIV

19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, 20 and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.

Previous Scripture: Luke 1:14-17;

Luke 3:6; Isaiah 40:3-5



III. Have an Understanding of the People's Needs



John 14:6 NIV

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.



III. Have an Understanding of the People's Needs



John 1:6-9 NIV

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

Previous Scripture: John 14:6;

Acts 3:19-20; Luke 1:14-17