

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE [MS] | PREPARE [JAN. 11]

**SCRIPTURE** | Luke 3:1-22

### BOTTOM LINE

God invites us to prepare the way for Jesus to disrupt the world

### MEMORY VERSE

Luke 3:4

### LIFE APP

Remove the barriers you put between God and your heart.



- Tonight will be a communion night. Please encourage your small group to stay quiet during communion.
- During worship, Russ will be playing some special music with some lyrics and a response/question during the song. Russ and the student band will give you instructions on what to do before the song.

### MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT |



In order for us to prepare the way for Jesus to disrupt our world, we must first prepare our hearts by doing as John says in our memory verse for this week. Many times our hearts can look like the scene John paints here. We have erased paths, dug deep valleys, raised up intractable mountains, and made crooked the roads that lead to our hearts. We don't go on the offensive against God, but we make it all but impossible for God to work on us. We don't prepare ourselves to be available for God to use us to disrupt the world. In other words, we won't let God disrupt us. The challenge for this week will be to look for the things (relationships, feelings, thoughts, actions, situations) that we place between us and God.

### JUST FOR FUN

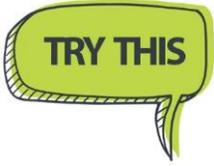
- See Just for Fun page.



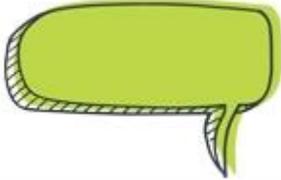
**"The beginning of discipleship is availability."**

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was the "Word of God" that came to John? (vv. 4-6)
- How did John say they should show their repentance? (vv. 11-14)
- What were they hanging their hat on before this? (v. 8, they were descendants of Abraham).
- Have you ever known someone who was "un-coachable"? What made them that way? Do you know someone who is a "coach's player"? What makes them that way?
- Make a list of the times when you feel like you allow God to be your "coach." In other words, when do you feel close to God?
- Make a list of the times when you don't allow God to be your coach. What can you do to minimize those situations?
- The Bible says that Jesus is the ultimate follower of God. If we are to follow Jesus' example, what kinds of things would we do? Do those things line up with or take away from what you're doing now? How so?
- In this passage, John is mostly talking to a group of people rather than each individual. How do you think John would call out StuMin? What are the barriers that we put up between us and God? Have you thought about SuMin as "your" community? Why or why not?



If you have a phone with you, go to the “reminders” app. Identify seven barriers you put up in between you and God that you would like to remove. Assign one barrier to a reminder each day for the next week. Give the reminder a time or a place, or both. When the reminder goes off, read the memory verse for the week. Then, pray that God would help you to remove that barrier in the future. You can repeat this for as long as you like until these barriers seems to go away or become less of an issue. If you do not have a phone, simply use note cards for each barrier and keep them on your nightstand at home.



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## EXTRAS

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