



Week beginning December 7th

Come Lord Jesus, show us the way

Opening Questions

- John the Baptist was very passionate in following his calling to prepare the way for Jesus. Can you name anyone today, well known or known only by you, who shows the same passion for something they believe in?
- 'Repent' is a word which is not heard very often today. How would you explain its meaning to someone who is not familiar with it?

Getting into the text

Read Matthew 3:1-12

- How would you describe John's lifestyle in the wilderness?
- Why do you think he called the Pharisees and Sadducees a 'brood of vipers?'

- How was the baptism offered by John different from the one Jesus would bring?
- How do you think John felt about Jesus?
- How do you think the people could show they were producing 'fruit in keeping with repentance' in their lives?

Applying the Bible to your life

- How does John's message challenge or inspire you as you continue the journey through Advent?
- Calling people 'a brood of vipers' may not be a good way to evangelise today. How can you help people to understand that they need to repent and turn to Jesus in 2025?

Something to pray about

Jesus said, '**I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**' (John 10:10)

- Give thanks that Jesus came to bring new life in him.
- Ask God to give you opportunities in this Christmas season to point people to Jesus. (As an individual and as a church family)
- Pray for Christians in other parts of the world who risk their lives to share the gospel.