

## Forerunner: *prepare the way of the Lord*

### *Preparing Yourself for Justice*

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Luke 3:4-18

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**Introduction:** When someone special is coming for a visit, you get ready. That might mean getting ahead on your homework or cleaning up your place or cooking some good food. You prepare. All the biographies of Jesus tell us that before the Christ child was born, God sent a quirky forerunner to help us prepare. What would it mean for you to prepare for the coming Savior? Worth having a look at that forerunner and his unsettling refrain: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord"?

**Prayer:** Father, we are beginning Advent. Help us to enter into this time of "preparation". Amen

**Review:** Was the "belonging" series helpful/inspiring? Explain

**Read:** Luke 3:4-18

### **Discussion:**

1. What is the theme (key idea) of the Isaiah text?
2. What attracted the crowds to John? What was the "wrath" mentioned by John?
3. Why did John refer to Abraham in his preaching?
4. Summarize the instructions of John in response to the questions of the crowd. Are you prepared to ask "what should I do" during Advent?
5. How did John differentiate his baptism from the baptism of the "one who is to come"?

**Application:** This week, set your heart toward preparation for the coming of Jesus.

**Prayer:** Father, we are grateful for beginning Advent together. Amen.