**THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN HAS COME NEAR**

Matthew 3:1-17

Key Verse 3:2 “...and saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’”

1. What does it mean to repent? (2, 8; Ezekiel 33:11) What does it mean that the kingdom of heaven has come near? (2)

2. In what way does John the Baptist fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah? (3; Isaiah 40:3) How did the people respond to John’s message? (5-6)

3. Why weren’t the Pharisees and Sadducees baptized by John? (7; Luke 7:29-30) How did John rebuke them? (7-10)

4. What is the significance of Jesus’ baptizing with the Holy Spirit? (11; Ezekiel 36:26-27)

5. Why did Jesus insist on being baptized by John? (15; 2 Corinthians 5:21) Why was God pleased with Jesus? (17)