

## Encountering Christ

### Wk 1

#### Christ Baptism

**Purpose:** For students to put themselves in the shoes of those who encountered Christ and choose how they would respond.

**Passage (s):** Mt. 3:13-17, Jn. 1:26-36

**Topic:** How do you respond when God shows up/ Christ reveals himself.

*Ricks Devotional:* Many times we encounter Christ and miss it, but more times than we'd like to admit we encounter Christ/ or God @ work and we choose not to respond. The goal over the next few weeks is to paint some biblical pictures of people encountering Christ and hang the question in the air, what would you have done, how would you have responded. What are you doing now?

This week we're looking at the baptism of Jesus, by reading the preceding passages we can see that John has rubbed some of the Pharisee's the wrong way. We see in the John passage that John tries to deter Jesus from being baptized, and the biggest thing that stands out to me is God's voice descending on Jesus, and when He says, "this is my son in whom I'm well pleased".

Jesus shows up, and immediately John recognizes Him, He was one of the first to see God in Christ. He communicates the truth to the crowd and @ first we have no response from the crowd. It isn't until the next day that we see two disciples join Jesus. We see God well pleased with Jesus, probably because of His obedience and willingness.

There are two instances in which we can choose how to respond.

- 1) as part of the crowd that day, we can ignore the message, rebel against the message or accept the message
- 2) as Christ followers (disciples), when someone tries to deter us from what God is calling us to we can either obey God (he is well pleased) or disregard the call (disobey/sin which further separates us from God).

*Small Group:*

Option A;

1. How would you have felt that day if you were in John's shoes?
  - a. Would you be upset about losing followers?
  - b. Would you be jealous of Christ recognition by the Father?
  - c. Would you be shocked by the reality of the situation?
  - d. Etc, Etc, Etc

Option B:

1. Think of some times you have responded to Christ by ignoring, or disobeying?
  - a. What were some of the consequences?
  - b. What did you miss out on?
2. Think of some times you have responded to Christ by obeying and/or following?
  - a. What were some of the benefits?
  - b. How/what/ if did God surprise you with?