

## Sunday 21st May— 9:30am Catholic Hall Luke 3:21-38 If Jesus is the Son of God, this changes Everything!

A reminder of Sunday's BD message ..... Luke 3:1-20

The ministry of John the Baptist was spiritual road building—it was preparing the road for the one who is greater than him, who would come after him. It's an image of making a road for the approach of the coming king. And the highway that clears the way for God's coming is a purified heart. To make our hearts pure things really need to be levelled and straightened up.

As John the Baptist began his ministry, Israel was in complete disarray. There were too many kings, who weren't really kings and too many high priests who weren't really high priests. And THIS was God's perfect timing for the Messiah to come. Jesus would come as the long awaited King of Israel and the new High Priest—the only intermediary between God and man. So to prepare the way for His coming, the ground work first had to be done—the true foundations laid. And this was done through the preaching of repentance. **The highway that clears the way for God's coming is a purified heart.** 

So, God sends John to proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Baptism affirmed a commitment to a completely new relationship with God. Baptism prepared ones heart to receive Jesus. The message of John the Baptist was this: Prepare for the coming King; Receive forgiveness; Avoid judgement.

John's place of ministry was in the wilderness. He didn't seek out the crowds, the crowds came to him. And these crowds came from long lines of people who were supposed to belong to God, but were opposed to God. So as people opposed to God, they were a people destined to be subject to a judgement of fire. So John refers to them as a 'brood of vipers'. And John's message to them is the same message given to us today—REPENT. Turn away from evil and turn to God.

Repentance is so much more than just changing your mind about who Jesus is. The biblical model of repentance is thoroughly practical. It's a conversion to a whole new way of life—Jesus referred to it as being 'born again'. Repentance isn't dependent on Godly heritage or have anything to do with being born into a particular race. Repentance is turning away from godlessness and turning toward God and His righteousness. THIS is how we prepare for the coming of Jesus.

We cannot be Christian in mind, and Christian in what we say but godless in what we do. We need to hear the message of judgement that John the Baptist proclaimed. And the message is simply this— REPENT. John gives the illustration of the wheat (those who have prepared for the coming judgement by welcoming Jesus into their hearts through the road of repentance) and the chaff (those who don't welcome Jesus and don't demonstrate their turning to God through practical Godly living). The wheat, He gathers. The chaff, He burns. How do we respond to Jesus?

## Bush Disciples May/June Roster 2023

Date	Opening Prayer	Kids Story	Bible Reading	Com- munion	Closing Prayer	Morning tea
21/05	A&M	J&S	AH	B&R	D&R	D&P
04/06	D&P	A&M	AH	J&S	B&R	D&R
18/06	D&R	D&P	AH	A&M	J&S	B&R



Cooper John Yarrow Dedication Service

4th June 5pm

Fellowship Supper to Follow

Message: Luke 2:41-52 Parenting & Spiritual Growth



Men's Prayer Meeting 6am "Mywybilla" every Wednesday

**KYB**—16 May Unit 7 9:30am

Men's Bible Study-7:30pm Mywybilla



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## Order of Service 21st May 2023

Welcome & Opening Prayer	Andrew & Monique		
Songs x 2	Chelsea & Rhonda		
Children's Story	Justin & Sarah		
Bible Reading	Anne Luke 3:21-38		
Message	If Jesus is the Son of God, This changes EVERYTHING		
Song	Chelsea & Rhonda		
Communion	Bruce & Rhonda		
Song	Chelsea & Rhonda		
Closing Prayer	David & Ruth		
Computer Operation	Harry		
Morning Tea	David & Pauline		