NWC Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 1/6/13

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Getting ready to meet God Matthew 3.1-12

Purpose of SG: to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

2013 Annual Focus: Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

Focus: to call us to humble repentance in light of Jesus' soon coming again in judgment.

Read 3.1-12. What would say are the "big ideas" in this passage? What is your initial reaction to these ideas: repentance and the return of Christ as judge?

Why does John call for repentance? What is fueling that cry?

What does fruit of repentance look like? What lesser definitions of repentance do we sometimes settle for? What barriers to repentance trip us up?

Why is John so hard on the religious leaders? What was their great error that he calls them to beware of? how can that same mistake affect us?

How is Christ portrayed in this passage? Do you usually think of Him like that?

How is John an example for you in this passage? Is that Spirit prompting you to more fully repent of particular sins in your life?

Resource: a sermon by John Piper on this text: http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/sermons/i-baptize-you-with-water

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