

January 25 2009 – Assignment – Oaklands Chapel

Luke 3:21-38 *The Commissioning of Jesus: Divine Approval; Eternal Heritage*

Speaker: Phil Horton

1. Read Luke 3:21-22 and compare it with Matt. 3:13-17.

Talk about your understanding regarding WHY Jesus is baptized by John. In what way does it breathe new life into the meaning / purpose of baptism?

2. Luke records that Jesus is praying following His baptism at the time when the Spirit comes upon Him.

Find other examples in Luke where Jesus prays at significant moments in his life. If Jesus prayed at such times, what should we learn for our own experience?

3. All 3 Persons of the Trinity are involved in this momentous experience.

Talk about the significance of how each Person is presented: Jesus in bodily form, praying; the Spirit as a dove; the Father in voice. What is the tone of the scene as Luke presents it to us and how does it heighten the sense of awe at this inauguration of Jesus' public ministry?

4. If someone is brave, have them read 23-38. I. Howard Marshall suggests that "*the point of the genealogy is% to show that Jesus has his place in the human race created by God. The fact that the genealogy is carried back to Adam, as the son of God, may perhaps point a contrast between this disobedient son of God and the obedient Son of God, Jesus.*"¹ Talk about how you see this genealogical record adding further credence and weight to Luke's presentation of Jesus at the beginning of His public ministry.
5. In what ways do these verses in Luke's account help to increase your confidence in the identity of Jesus? What difference does this make in the way you might be willing to talk about Him to your friends, family and co-workers?

¹ I. Howard Marshall, *The Gospel of Luke*, (Grand Rapids, Michigan: ThePaternoster Press, 1978), 161.