**GOD’S STORY – YOUR STORY**

**SESSION 2**

**Wild John and the Rabbi’s Students**

Readings

Matthew 3 Luke 3:1-23a

Matthew 10:1-4 Luke 5:1-11

Matthew 11:1-19 John 1:19-42

Matthew 14:1-12 John 3:22-30

Mark 1:9-20

John the Baptist

 Sent to fulfill Elijah’s mission to announce the coming of the Messiah

 In the wilderness eating locusts and wild honey

Jews were coming to be baptized by John in the Jordan River.

 Baptism of forgiveness

John announces that one is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire

Jesus’ Baptism

Is described in all 4 gospels

Jesus is proclaimed the beloved Son of God.

We see Jesus’ baptism by John as the beginning of his public ministry.

Why is Jesus baptized?

 Faithfulness to accomplish God’s purposes and commission

Consecration by Holy Spirit for messianic ministry

 Identifying with and bearing the sins for whom he came

 Signal of the coming of the kingdom of God which he came to proclaim

The Temptation

 Luke 4:1-13

 40 days signifies long period of time and recalls the testing of Israel in wilderness

 Perfect obedience and superiority over Satan - Jesus’ responses from the Torah

 Helps us identify with Jesus’ humanness

The Beginning of Jesus’ Ministry

Luke 4:14-21

The Calling of the Disciples.

There were many in Jesus’ day who claimed to be a prophet or the messiah.

The Jews were expecting a king to deliver them from the Romans and establish a new and strong kingdom of Israel.

The disciples followed Jesus though they did not know who they followed. They understood after his resurrection and Pentecost.

Disciples: Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Matthew (Levi), Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon, Judas (Jude or Thaddaeus), and Judas Iscariot

**Looking ahead:**

John 1:43-51

Matthew 28:19

Acts 1:12-26

Romans 1:1-7