

# Create



## ✓ **Prepare in Advance**

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Provide pens/pencils and paper for the writing option or keep an ongoing journal for participants to return to or take home each week.
- Provide and keep a collection of art supplies for each week including but not limited to: crayons, chalk, color pencils, markers, glue, tissue paper, colored construction paper, paint brushes, watercolors, finger paints, scissors, and a variety of scrapbooking paper and old magazines.
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

## ✓ **Breath of God**

Ask a volunteer to read Luke 3:7-18. Then, show the *Bible Background Video*.

**Say:** During the Advent season, we are busy preparing for Christmas – presents, decorations, and laying out our manger scenes. Yet, John's idea of preparing for Christ's coming to the world is an entirely different matter. John reminds us that Jesus is much more than a sweet baby born into a dirty manger. Jesus grew up. Jesus called for repentance and action. As we prepare for Advent, we are not preparing for a little bundle of joy. Rather, we are preparing for a savior who will baptize the world with the Holy Spirit and fire, a God who calls us to take action and share the news of hope with the world.

**Ask:** What steps do you need to take in order to repent and prepare for Christ?

Invite each participant to choose either the Writing or Visual approach and spend the next 20-25 minutes with that experience.

## ✓ **Create- Writing**

Invite writing participants to reflect on Luke 3:7-18 and rewrite John the Baptist's words in modern language. Ask them to reflect on the question: What would John the Baptist be saying to us today as we recognize and prepare for Christ?

## ✓ **Create- Visual**

Invite writing participants to reflect on Luke 3:7-18 and create a visual that reflects John the Baptist's

words. Ask them to reflect on the questions: What sort of picture does John the Baptist paint for us today as we recognize and prepare for Christ?

## ✓ **Share**

Call the group together. Invite participants to share their writings and creations with the large group.

**Ask:** How do we view Jesus?

Close with prayer.

(After the session, consider finding a way to share the creations of the group- post pictures on Facebook, on a church website, or in a portfolio/frames kept either in a public place in the church or in your group's special gathering place).

**By Noelle Owen**

## Church Websites

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