

# Questions for Reflection and Discussion

## Matthew 3

### Getting Started

What is the strangest thing you've ever eaten?

### Digging In

1. **Read 3:1-6.** Describe John the Baptist.
2. Write a paraphrase of John's message in v. 2.
3. How was John like a road crew in ancient times that prepared the highway for a king?
4. How did people in Jerusalem and Judea respond to John's preaching?
5. What were these people saying by being baptized by John?
6. **Read 3:7-12.** Why was John so hard on the religious leaders?
7. According to John, what is the mark of true repentance?
8. How did John view the coming of the Christ?
9. **Read 3:13-17.** Why was John reluctant to baptize Jesus?
10. What was the significance of Jesus' baptism?
11. How is the Trinity seen in this passage?
12. In what ways was Jesus' baptism an essential preparation for his ministry?



### What Now?

- The hearts of the religious leaders were hard because of their self-righteousness. How can self-righteousness creep into our own lives? What forms can it take?
- In your own words, what does it mean to repent?
- Is there anything in your life from which you need to repent? Take a few minutes to give God an opportunity to speak to you.
- In what sense should repentance be a regular part of the life of a Christian?