

WEEK 4:

# HOW JESUS CHANGES PEOPLE

## PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 3:21-22, 4:1-13

## RELATED SCRIPTURE:

James 4:1-3; Colossians 3

Sinful acts always have their origin in some form of unbelief. *Behind every sin is a lie.* The root of all our behavior and emotions is the heart – what it trusts and what it treasures... We sin because we believe the lie that we are better off without God, that His rule is oppressive, that we will be free without Him, that sin offers more than God.

- Tim Chester, *You Can Change*

## PERSONAL STUDY:

**Read Luke 3:21-22 and Matthew 3:13-17.** Why do you think Jesus got baptized? What does Jesus mean in Matthew 3:15 when He says it is fitting for Him to get baptized “to fulfill all righteousness”?

**Read Luke 4:1-13.** How do verses 1-2 describe the setting for the devil’s temptation of Jesus in the wilderness? What was it like? What is Jesus’ condition? When have you been hungry, weak, isolated, and/or stuck in a desolate place or situation? How were you affected physically, emotionally and psychologically?

How does the devil tempt Jesus at a surface level? What specific things does he overtly offer and tempt Jesus with? How does the devil attack and tempt Jesus in more subversive ways? (Look at the implications of how he addresses Jesus in verse 3 and verse 9)

In Luke 3:22, what is the significance of the words God speaks over Jesus at His baptism? In what ways have you seen God’s words create, define and shape your identity?

**Read Galatians 4:4-7, 1 Peter 2:9, Philippians 1:6, & 2 Corinthians 5:17.** What statements of identity do these verses say we have received as Christians? What sort of impact would these truths have if you fully believed them?

Which of these are the most difficult for you to believe and live in light of?

## SERMON NOTES:



## LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

What are the best words you would use to describe yourself? What are the worst words you identify yourself with?



**Read Luke 3:21-22.** Why are the words God speaks over Jesus at His baptism important to us as believers? What truths from the Bible or specific verses are the most important for you in understanding your identity and positional status in Jesus?

**Read Luke 4:1-13.** How does the devil attack Jesus' identity in the wilderness? Where in your life do you experience direct and overt temptation? Where have you experienced more subversive and subtle forms of temptation?



Is the following statement true or false? Why?

“The devil never tempts a human to sin without in some manner attacking their identity.”

As a group, read the verses from the last two questions in the personal study. How do these statements of identity give freedom and life to your soul? Which of these are the hardest for you to believe? Why?

