

Family Worship at Home. December 12th, 2021

Luke 3:7-18 Why did God send Jesus?

Have you ever played the "opposite game" -- where you do the opposite of what someone says?

For instance, if I told you to go forward during the opposite game, what way would you go instead? (backwards)

And if I told you to go to the left during the opposite game, what way would you go instead? (to the right)

If I said to walk fast, you would walk slow. What are some other opposites you can think of? Try it out.

I was asking about the opposite game because I think that will help us to think about what John the Baptist is trying to get the people to understand in today's story.

John the Baptist starts by telling the people that they need to repent, which simply means to "turn around."

And the way he tells them to turn around is by doing the OPPOSITE of what they usually do every day.

John tells the people to share their extra stuff instead of not sharing their extra stuff and keeping it for themselves..

John tells the tax collectors to only take what they need and not take more than they need.

John tells the soldiers to protect the people instead of scaring the people.

What do you think – does John the Baptist's "do the opposite" ideas sound pretty good?

The problem with the opposite game, of course, is that it ends.

But John the Baptist is telling the people that if they like his idea of "doing the opposite" idea, then there was someone who lives this opposite way every day that they can learn from.

That person, of course, was Jesus.

Jesus invited others (and us) to follow him and learn how to live God's better way – *all day, every day*.

To say yes to Jesus' invitation is to learn how to receive God's love, mercy and grace.

Then, when we are receiving God's love, mercy, and grace, that means we have it to then share with those who are around us...

...and when that happens, then that's how we help John the Baptist's opposite day happen *every day*.

And that is the good news for today. Let's pray.

Video Clip: [God's Story: John the Baptist - YouTube](#)

[God's Story: John the Baptist - YouTube](#)

Songs:

[Lord I Thank You - Yancy & Little Praise Party \[OFFICIAL KIDS WORSHIP MUSIC VIDEO\] Taste and See - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7cYIMZa1QmU>

[Born Is The King \(It's Christmas\) - Hillsong Lyric Video - YouTube](#)

Activity: Spend the day walking backwards. If you don't have a nativity set print off the one attached and let the children make their own.

[Nativity Characters - Free Printable sunhatsandwellieboots.com.pdf \(3 Sheets\).pdf - Google Drive](#)

