

We're glad you've chosen to worship with us! If you're here for the first time, you are our special guest. Fill out the information on the other side of this card and visit The Landing (located just outside the sanctuary in the main hall) where we have a gift for you!

Welcome to Southside Baptist Church!

CLUB 456

Club 456 is an opportunity for students currently in grades 4, 5, and 6 to begin forming relationships with peers, enjoy off-campus opportunities, service opportunities, and growing their faith. Friends are always welcomed and encouraged!

We will meet **next Sunday, following worship until 1:00 p.m.**, for lunch, devotion, and games. This group is intended to disciple students in those "tween" years and help them learn about the world outside of themselves while they go through this stage of life.

DEACON ORDINATION

Join us for a special time of worship and a time of dedication as we ordain several new deacons who have completed one year of apprenticeship in our Deacon Ministry.

This will take place during worship at 10:30 a.m., on Sunday, March 7.

PRIMETIME WORSHIP -- A SENIOR ADULT SERVICE --

We meet in the sanctuary each Wednesday, at 10:00 a.m. for a time to sing hymns, hear a message from Pastor Gary, and fellowship with those around us.



search **SSBCJax**
to connect with us
on social media!

Inception

Prepare the Way
Gary Lee Webber
January 24, 2021

How should followers of Jesus respond to the chaos and discord of the world around us? The launching of Jesus' ministry offers us an unexpected answer. Join us for part two of *Inception* where we explore the message of Jesus' cousin John and how that message and Jesus' response helps us begin the process of changing the world around us.

Passage (read it):

Luke 3:1-20

Principles (know it):

The mission to change the world begins with the _____.

Practices (do it):

Practice _____:

- Begin with the person in the mirror.
- John 3:30; Matthew 7:1-5

Practice _____:

- Isaiah 40:3-5
- What do you need to do to prepare the way for Jesus?
 - What valleys need filling in? (gaps in your integrity)
 - What mountains need to be leveled? (behaviors, habits, addictions you need to surrender)
 - What crooked paths do I need to straighten? (shortcuts you need to quit taking)
 - What rough places so I need to smooth out? (character flaws you need to address)
- See this week's small group discussion guide.

Practice _____

- Luke 1:18-20



Southside Baptist Church
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tear here to use as a
bookmark in your
daily reading.



INCEPTION

FOR I WAS SENT FOR THIS PURPOSE

Small Group Questions

Use this outline for personal reflection, as a couples or family devotion, or with a small group.

HANGOUT (warming up to the topic):

1. What is the difference between an apology and repentance? Which is harder and why?

2. Our culture loves apologies but shies away from the idea of repentance. Perhaps it seems too "churchy" and judgmental? Is an apology sufficient for problems like racism and injustice? Why or why not?

HEAR (listening to God through Scripture):

John the Baptist called people to repentance in order to prepare the way for the Lord. In today's discussion, we are going to look at 8 steps for real repentance as outlined in Psalm 51. Today's discussion is based on an article by Catherine Parks that can be found at <https://bit.ly/392DqBP>

3. **DEFINE** the sin. **APPEAL** to God's mercy. Read Psalm 51:1-3.

- Who wrote this psalm and what was the occasion?
- How many words are used to describe sin in these three verses? What are they and what do they mean?
- Why is it important to specifically define your sin?
- Why is an appeal to God's mercy an important part of repentance? What would happen if we repented without a belief in His mercy?

4. **AVOID** defensiveness and see God rightly. **LOOK** to Jesus. Read Psalm 51:4-7.

- Who else was affected (hurt) by David's sin? How can he say he sinned only against God?
- What are some ways we become defensive to avoid repentance?

- Hyssop signifies purification with blood (see Exodus 24). Discuss how this subtle reference points to Jesus? How should His death impact our understanding of repentance?

5. **ASK** God to break and heal you. **BE COMFORTED** by the Spirit.

Read Psalm 51:8-11.

- Why do doctors sometimes have to reset bones? How do they do that? How is that similar to what David is praying?
- The Spirit is sometimes called the "Comforter," but the Spirit also convicts us of sin. How can the same Spirit that convicts bring comfort? What does that tell you about God?

6. **REJOICE** and proclaim the truth. **RESOLVE** to obey.

Read Psalm 51:12-19.

- How does true repentance open the door for us to teach others? Why is this hard? What does it require?
- How open are you about past failures and how Christ has redeemed and transformed your life? How have you seen God use your trials as an encouragement and blessing for others?
- Why is repentance resulting in obedience a better offering than a burnt sacrifice? Which is easier to give?

HUDDLE (making it personal and praying together - in huddles):

7. Is there a sin in your life for which you are sorry, but not repentant?

What is it and how can the eight steps to repentance from Psalm 51 guide you through the process of repenting of that sin? Talk about it, pray, and invite accountability.

Daily Readings:

Jesus said that John the Baptist was the greatest person ever born. That is quite a compliment! This week's readings all focus on John, his life, ministry, and death. As you read these passages, ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to what made Jesus think so much of John and how you might learn from his example.

- Day 1: Isaiah 40, Malachi 3 & 4
- Day 2: Luke 1
- Day 3: Luke 3
- Day 4: Matthew 3
- Day 5: Mark 1 & John 1
- Day 6: Matthew 14, Mark 6
- Day 7: Luke 7

← *tear here to use as a bookmark in your daily reading.*

Suggested Resources:

Books:

Luke for Everyone, by N.T. Wright

Other sermons at ssbc.org:

Beginnings: John the Witness
(February 1, 2015)

Becoming Less (April 19, 2015)
selfLESS (September 2018)

Let's Connect!

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Fill out the information below and place it in the offering bucket or take it to "The Landing" (located just outside the sanctuary in the main hall) as you leave. We'd love to meet you.

MEMBERS: Text CONNECT to 904-441-8650 to let us know you're with us today.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

I would like more information about:
