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**Chapter 2 Study Guide: Jesus’ Mission Begins**

**Ice Breaker:** “Two Truths and a Lie” Ask the group to share two true facts about themselves and one lie. Give them a few moments to think of the facts and the lie (leader, be ready to go first). Now get the rest of the group to vote on which fact is false.

As we continue to learn about Jesus, it’s important to keep in mind what is true about Jesus and not just popular notions of Him that may not be accurate. So let’s see what we learned about Jesus this week…

1. What stuck out to you from the teaching?
2. The beginning of chapter 2 gives us a fuller picture of John the Baptist’s ministry. The theme of his message was “repentance” (pg. 27-28). What does repentance mean and how do you know if you have done it? How important is repentance in our lives (see Acts 2:38)?

On pg. 28 John says, “Prove by the way you live that you have repented.” What does this mean and why does it matter?

1. On pg. 29 it says that people started to look to John as the Messiah. How did John respond to this? What does this response say about John’s heart and what example does it set for us (See James 4:6)?
2. Why does Jesus say He is being baptized (pg. 30)? What does His baptism say to us about humility and submission to God’s will in our lives?
3. On pg. 30 it tells us that “immediately” after His baptism Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted by the devil. How does the fact that Jesus was tempted to sin allow us to relate to Him better (See Hebrews 4:15-16)?
4. How is Jesus able to effectively resist the temptation to sin (pg. 30-31)? How does this help us in our temptations (See 1 Corinthians 10:13)?
5. When Jesus meets his first disciples He invites them to “come and see” (pg. 33) then “follow me” (pg. 34). How does this compare to when you first met Jesus?
6. Jesus’ first miracle at the wedding (pg. 34-35) is both compassionate (toward wedding party) ***and*** revealing (Jesus’ authority). What impresses you the most about this miracle, His compassion or His authority? Why?
7. Why did Jesus react so sternly in the temple (pg. 36)? How does this contradict the common perception of Jesus?
8. What does Jesus tell Nicodemus a person must do in order to see the kingdom of God (pg. 37)? What does it mean to be “born from above?”
9. On pgs. 41-42 Jesus encounters a woman at Jacob’s well. From the Samaritan woman’s perspective, how would you describe Jesus to your friends?
10. Jesus says that whoever drinks that water He gives will never thirst again (pg. 41). How is our need for salvation and eternal life like thirst?
11. Where do you see Jesus fulfilling the “upper story” or His mission in this chapter?