

**Transition:**

At the end of chapter 2, Jesus was a child and now he's around 30! Where did the time go? Only Luke 2 gives us a story of Jesus at age 12. Other than that, there is much about Jesus' young life that we do not know about. We do know that the Baptism of Jesus is a crucial moment in His life because it is recorded in all four gospel accounts!

**Tell the story:**

Tell the story (with passion!) the best as you can, don't stop and teach, try not to make points, just tell the story. Perhaps leave some parts out or make a mistake, just to see if your group catches it!

**Rebuild the story:**

Chronologically rebuild the story by asking questions. Have the group look for what was added or left out by looking in their Bibles and going back over the story. Then have someone else tell the story the best they can – just like you modeled the first time.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. We typically view baptism as a representation of repentance – dying to the old self and raising to a new life. Jesus had nothing to repent of – so why was He baptized?
2. Up to this point, what are some things that Jesus was doing to please His Father? (Lk.2:49-52)
3. How does this translate to us? What do we have to do so that God the Father will be pleased with us? (Col.1:10; Rom. 12:1; Heb.11:6)

**Fundamental:**

The Trinity – There are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory. The Westminster Confession says: the Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Spirit eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.

1. Though the word "Trinity" is not found in Scripture, where can we find other examples? (Gen 1:2; Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Pet 1:2)
2. The great statement (SHEMA) in Deut 6:4-9 states that, "the LORD our God, the LORD is One." How is it possible that the LORD is One and yet three persons?

**Homework/Challenge:**

1. Do an internet search for "Modalism" and "Arianism." Be able to have a conversation about why these two ideas are considered heresy as it relates to the Trinity.
2. Please read Matthew 4 in preparation for next week.

**Discipleship Tip:**

Don't let your group get too upset if they are unable to explain the Trinity clearly. Assure them that it has been argued over for centuries! It's okay to say, "I'm not sure..."

**Prayer:**

Pray for those that have never been baptized – make an invitation!