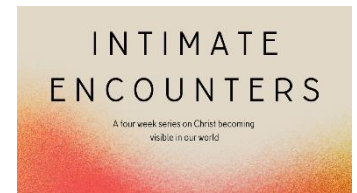


## Royal Redeemer Going Deeper Guide

Based on the sermon for January 12, 2025  
INTIMATE ENCOUNTERS: Baptism



**For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with a CGS Community or family**

- **Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week**
- **CONNECT** *with each other*
  - Share a time when someone took your place and you benefited from it.
- **GROW** *in Christ* (Read the following scripture from **Luke 3: 15-22**)

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But One who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them. <sup>19</sup> But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, <sup>20</sup> Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

### **The Baptism of Jesus**

<sup>21</sup> When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as He was praying, heaven was opened <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased."

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
  - In verse 3 of Luke 3 it says that John's baptism was one of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Why was this necessary for Jesus to receive, since He had no sin?
  - Comment on the statement that "the people had their sins removed by John's baptism, whereas Jesus had the people's sins add to Himself in John's baptism".
  - What does the first part of verse 21 imply about Jesus' purpose in being baptized by John?
  - How does the rest of verse 21 and verse 22 give evidence for the doctrine of The Trinity?
  - How does Jesus receiving the Holy Spirit in His baptism support Him giving the Holy Spirit to those who receive a Christian Trinitarian baptism?
  - If you don't understand the significance of Jesus' baptism by John, (in which Jesus identified with humanity) how can that cause you to miss some of the joy from the assurance that your baptism gives?
  - Jesus began His earthly ministry right after His baptism by John, how did Jesus' baptism (where He identified with humanity) open the door for that ministry?
- **SERVE** *others*

Who might God want you to share the truth about Jesus' baptism by John with? Look for opportunities and do that!

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing**