

**Catechism Lesson for Adults and Teens**  
**Sunday after Epiphany**

**John the Baptist Prepares the Way**

Read the Gospel Passage for Epiphany AND for this Sunday

Matthew 3:13-17

Matthew 4:12-17

**Contextual Background:**

-During this period of remembering Epiphany, we split up the readings of St. John the Baptist, of Jesus' Baptism, and the start of His Ministry

-Epiphany is the one time in history wherein humankind has seen the Triune Godhead gathered together: Father in the voice, Son in the incarnate flesh emerging from the water, and the Holy Spirit as a dove

**Discussion Questions:**

1. When did you leave home to be on your own for the first time?
  
2. When have you felt like everything around you was dark, hopeless, depressing?
  
3. What helps you feel light, hope, safety in dark or distressing times?
  
4. Jesus' Baptism was the marking of the beginning of His Ministry. What was a "new beginning" that you remember to be significant or difficult?
  
5. Jesus was affirmed by God the Father and by God the Holy Spirit at His Baptism.
  - a. When have you felt affirmed or had the support of others?
  
  - b. When have you wish you felt affirmed or had the support of others?

6. Jesus had to leave the area because His work was not yet done on Earth, and He knew the authority meant to harm John and Him.
  - a. When have you felt unsafe?
  
  - b. How do you handle conflict or deal with those who are hostile to you?
  
7. If Jesus came up to you and said, “repent/change, my Kingdom is coming” what might you want to change for Him?