

## **May 6**

### Matthew 3:1-12

This passage tells of the beginning of John the Baptist's ministry.

#### *Question to Consider:*

The text says that John's clothes were made of camel's hair and that his food was locusts and wild honey. That sounds strange to us and it may have been unusual then. Can you think of someone who appeared to be unusual but who, like John, turned out to make a significant contribution to life?

#### *Prayer:*

Father God, people are not always as they appear at first. Help me to avoid making quick judgments about people. Help me to see people as you see them. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## **May 7**

### Matthew 3:13-17

These verses describe the baptism of Jesus.

#### *Question to Consider:*

John hesitated before baptizing Jesus because he knew who Jesus was. Why do you think Jesus asked to be baptized by John?

#### *Prayer:*

Almighty God, Jesus fully embraced our humanity and as he was baptized, he embraced our need for forgiveness. I ask for your forgiveness, Lord, and I know that in Christ, forgiveness is available. It is in the name of Jesus that I pray. Amen.

## **May 8**

### Luke 4:1-13

This passage tells of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness after he was baptized.

#### *Question to Consider:*

Jesus was tempted to give in to his immediate needs (hunger and thirst), to the possibility of having great power, and to doing something dramatic that would test God. He refused each time. Of those temptations, which one would you find most difficult to resist? Why?

#### *Prayer:*

Almighty God, you are the Lord of the universe, and yet I know that Satan is real and that temptation is something I struggle with daily. Help me to resist temptation and remain faithful to you. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

## **May 9**

### Luke 5:1-11

In these verses, we read of Jesus calling his first disciples.

#### *Question to Consider:*

Peter was an experienced fisherman. He knew how to fish, and yet when Jesus told him how to catch more fish, he did what Jesus suggested. Think of something that you are good at, that you know how to do well. How might you react if someone were to tell you a new way of doing whatever it is that you do well?

#### *Prayer:*

Living God, through your Holy Spirit you guide me, and the time may come when you guide me into a different way of doing something that I already do well. When that time comes, I pray that I am like Peter – willing to follow you and do what you suggest. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## **May 10**

### John 2:1-11

This passage tells about Jesus turning water into wine at a wedding in the town of Cana.

#### *Question to Consider:*

It seems clear from this story that Jesus enjoyed being with people who were enjoying a special event, in this case a wedding. Think of a special event you attended recently. What was it, and what made it special?

#### *Prayer:*

Loving God, people are at the pinnacle of your creation, and yet there are times when other people get on my nerves or even hurt me in some way. Help me to be a person of grace and forgiveness, and help me to do a better job of appreciating your sons and daughters. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.