

John Franklin, Regional Director, Young Life
Message - June 25-26, 2005

Why Serve Christ?
Matthew 3:13-17

Message Summary: John took us to the baptism of Jesus in Matthew 3, the beginning of his public ministry, to review three important truths in coming to an understanding of why we would serve Christ.

- Jesus was blessed by the Father in this passage BEFORE he had begun his ministry years. We (you and I) are loved by God for WHO we are not for what we DO for God. That is important to understand before we serve.
- Jesus had a special assignment that he was to do for the Father. Each of us has an assignment or call on our lives from God. This has nothing to do with God's love for us but in the end the assignment if carried out by us will bring the greatest fulfillment to our lives we could ever have.
- Jesus began his public ministry under the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. We begin our assignment for God only under the Holy Spirit's empowerment, not on our own, out of our own will. We must look at our job or our family or our neighborhood as the place God has assigned us to. We must have the perspective that, "I am a believer that is a lawyer, or housemaker, or government official, etc." God has placed us in a place to be the light for Him.

Questions:

1. What do you see as your assignment from God?
2. If your assignment is unclear to you, what would you need to make it clearer?
3. If you were to evaluate your actions in that "assignment," how well are you doing?
4. If you are retired, possibly God has given you a new assignment, what do you think it is?