

Listen to the Voice! (Luke 3:4-6)

Introduction: *There's a voice on the phone...what do you do?*

- I. TO DAY WE LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER
 - A. John is well known for many things
 - B. But chiefly he is known as the voice of repentance
 - C. This voice of repentance also came from the Old Testament judges and prophets

- II. CAN YOU HEAR JOHN'S VOICE CALLING TO YOU?
 - A. He is calling you to repent
 - B. Repentance means – *to change the direction you are going*
 - C. God creates repentant & forgiven people by Baptism & His Word
 - D. As a repentant & forgiven people, God no longer sees our sin, He sees us only covered in the perfect righteousness of Jesus... WOW!!

- III. ADVENT IS A SEASON TO LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF REPENTANCE
 - A. Repentance prepares us for Jesus' 1st & 2nd Advent at Christmas & at judgment day
 - B. How do we all prepare when someone special is coming to our house?
 - C. "Bearing the fruit of repentance" means two things –
 1. Turn away from the sin you are repenting of (Luke 3:10-14; John 8:11)
 2. Restore, if possible, what sin has ruined (Luke 19:8)

Conclusion: *The voice on the phone is the voice of John the Baptist...don't hang up!*