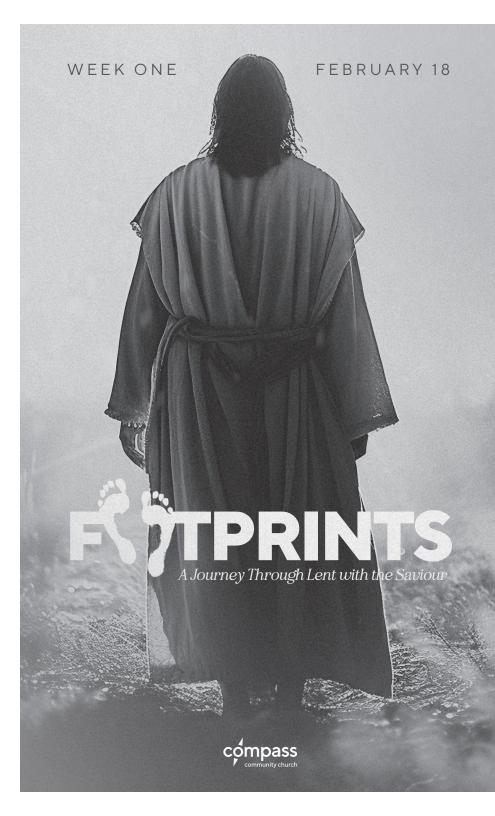
NOTES & QUOTES



DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERVICE?

You can watch all past messages on our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@thisiscompass or you can listen to our podcast at www.thisiscompass.com/podcast.

CONNECT (BUILD RELATIONSHIPS)

- 1. Have you ever given something up for Lent? If so, what was it? If not, what might be something you would give up during Lent to focus on God?
- 2. Is there someone who has walked beside you during a season of your life whose footprints have left a lasting impression on you? Explain.
- 3. If Jesus were to walk into your community today, where do you think he might go and why?

THRIVE (EXPLORE BIBLICAL TRUTH)

Read Matthew Chapter 3.

- 4. Why do you think Matthew skips over the rest of Jesus's childhood, adolescence and early adulthood and picks up his life story here?
- 5. Why do you think John was baptizing in the wilderness, and why might Matthew mention his clothing and diet?
- 6. From what we know about John's baptism, why would it be a surprise for Jesus to be baptized by him? (3:11,14)

- 7. Read the same account of this story in Mark 1:1-12. What strikes you about the differences in these two gospel accounts?
- 8. What do we learn about the Spirit's work and relationship with Jesus in Mark 1:9-13?

COMMIT (BE ON MISSION)

- 9. What can the footprints that Jesus left in John's life in this interaction teach us about how Jesus interacts with us?
- 10. In what ways can we "prepare the way for the Lord" in the wilderness areas of our culture?
- 11. If you were to paraphrase God's declaration of Jesus as his beloved son, what words or phrases would you use, and why? How does that apply to your understanding of your identity in Christ?
- 12. How can we cultivate a relationship with God that allows us to hear his affirmations as he did with Jesus?

PAUSE, PONDER & PRAY

"This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him."" MATTHEW 3:3