

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: A Adv2x2016

Text: Matthew 3:1-12

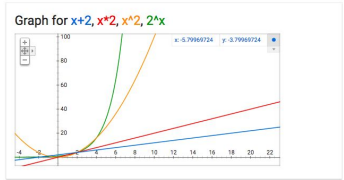
In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 2 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” 3 This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” 4 Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, 6 and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

7 But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruit worthy of repentance. 9 Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 10 Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Primary Expressed Intelligence - {MWD} Body {D2} Nature

Eye - I/S, Math - I/S, Body - I/S, People - I/S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	Vs. 2 - Repent! (present tense, not one time event, but life-time event) <i>Epì tò báptisma</i> - accusative case with epi suggests they were coming upon it, against it, in time for it, or over a span of time of it.	Repent ≠ moral shedding of old skin per se, but a continual need to suss out the best path forward - which means sometimes turning aside or all the way around.	

	Context suggests either against it (hence John's wrath) or perhaps over a time, as if milling around or watching without participating (hence John's wrath)		
Eye - Visual/Spatial	Vs. 2 Vs. 5 crowds going out	Repent = God placing events, circumstances, people, LIFE on the scales of our balances in order to tip the weight and cause us to reorient the weight.	(balance scales) Woodstock (cultural/political event) MLK march on Washington (political event) Chicago Cubs WIN (cultural/social event) The Hajj (religious event) Various religious festivals
Math - Logical/Mathematical	V. 9 - a logical critique of the Pharisees' and Sadducees' ... um... assurance of inclusion?	God's love is a circle expanding faster than any person or community can graph. This circle expands like the universe expands, accelerating over time! - which has caused astrophysicists some heartburn as they throw out their old models!	God's inclusion outpacing our expectations, like linear vs. exponential vs. logarithmic progressions, vis:  (see larger version below) Our understanding of God's love is like the blue or red lines, but God's love is more like the yellow or green.
Body - Kinesthetic	Vs. 2 - repent! Vs. 3 - make paths straight	Like having a yoke on one's shoulders that is balanced and something comes along that tips the weight and makes us teeter and struggle to rebalance the load.	Invite a "volunteer" to come forward and place a long pole on their shoulders with empty buckets attached to each end. Fill the buckets with water or sand and explore how having uneven

			weight forces the person to shift around. Discuss the feel of the yoke; maybe make some parallels to what yoke might be on each person's shoulders. (Include Jesus' easy yoke and light burden?)
Musical		WHO warned you to flee Who WARNED you to flee Who warned YOU to flee Who warned you to FLEE (It's a cha-cha! 1-2-123)	
Natural	<p>Brood of vipers</p> <p>From these stones</p> <p>Gathering the wheat</p>	<p>Snakes are not known for showing great concern for offspring - plus, this phrase is quite colorful in its colloquial application. ("Snake bastards" is how Malina and Rohrbaugh put it!)</p> <p>Stones are not known for growing things but they can be broken open by determined plant life (see the shoots in Isaiah). The point being God can take not usually living material and make life out of it. (dust => ha'adamah)</p> <p>Wheat matures in its husks, and when it is ripe, the two are separated by a variety of means. The useful part of the grain is kept and the useless is thrown to the wind or burned. However, wind in Greek is pneuma (also spirit) and the fire that burns at the end of the passage is like a furnace which IS useful. So.</p>	I would advise against bringing a snake into worship but you could bring rocks and wheat in and pass around a basket with either of them in it as you speak about these things.

<p>People - Interpersonal</p>	<p>Who warned you to flee the wrath to come?</p> <p>Craig Keener - possibly alluding to the agricultural practice of setting fire to stubble fields to prepare for planting - snakes would boogie out of there (as would other creatures, I'm sure).</p> <p>John seems to be taking a jab at the presence of the leaders out in the wilderness, by calling them snakes and then alluding to their precarious position in light of God's coming kingdom. The fire of the Spirit is nearing and they are like serpents fleeing in front of it.</p>	<p>A wee bit of trash talking going on here.</p> <p>The relationship between prophets and leaders is often rocky; loud, sometimes abrasive and insulting, yet they need the tension between them to find the way through change in order to serve God.</p> <p>Tip O'Neill and Ronald Reagan - Elena Kagan and Antonin Scalia Opposites who sparked off each other</p> <p>Flint and steel</p> <p>Vs. 7 Evacuation Order for FLA - GET OUT</p>	<p>We tend to avoid confrontation and be nice to one another, but are there times when confrontation must happen? If so, how? (Other times we engage when we should let it go! How to tell the difference?)</p>
<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p>		<p>Vs. 7ff - What do you rely on for security? Money? Privilege? Insurance? Government? How about for your spiritual safety? Being "good?" Not being "bad?" Being baptized? How sure are you that you would escape God's wrath?</p>	

Graph for $x+2$, $x*2$, x^2 , 2^x

