

that you would believe

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

## SERMON NOTES

April 14/15, 2018

### John the Baptist: A Voice for Jesus

John 1:6-9, 19-29

Pastor Rick Countryman

**Luke 7:28** (NASB)

*"I say to you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."*

**John 1:6-9** (NLT)

*God sent a man, John the Baptist, <sup>7</sup> to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. <sup>8</sup> John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. <sup>9</sup> The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.*

**John 1:19-29** (NLT)

*This was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders sent priests and Temple assistants from Jerusalem to ask John, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup> He came right out and said, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup> "Well then, who are you?" they asked. "Are you Elijah?" "No," he replied. "Are you the Prophet we are expecting?" "No." <sup>22</sup> "Then who are you? We need an answer for those who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup> John replied in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Clear the way for the LORD's coming!'" <sup>24</sup> Then the Pharisees who had been sent <sup>25</sup> asked him, "If you aren't the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, what right do you have to baptize?" <sup>26</sup> John told them, "I baptize with water, but right here in the crowd is someone you do not recognize. <sup>27</sup> Though his ministry follows mine, I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandal." <sup>28</sup> This encounter took place in Bethany, an area east of the Jordan River, where John was baptizing. <sup>29</sup> The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*

### 3 Thoughts on how you can live a great life like John the Baptist

#### 1. John knew who he was...

He knew that God had chosen him for a purpose!

Verse 6

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**Ephesians 1:4-5** (NLT)

*Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. <sup>5</sup> God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ...*

**John 15:16** (NIV)

*"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last."*

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#### 2. John knew exactly what his purpose was...

He was a voice for God!

Verses 6-8

Verses 19-23

**2 Corinthians 5:20** (NLT)

*So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"*

**1 Peter 2:12** (NIV)

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#### 3. John had a deep understanding of who Jesus was...

The Savior!

Verses 26-29

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