

# SERMON OUTLINE John 1:19-34

John the Baptist

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## **JOHN HAD BUILT A REPUTATION (19)**

## **WHO ARE YOU? (19-28)**

*Not the Christ (20-23)*

*Preparing the Way for the Christ (24-28)*

## **INTRODUCING THE CHRIST (29-34)**

# SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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## MAIN POINT

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The main points of this passage are that: 1) John, although growing in influence and reputation, made it clear over and over that he was not the point, Jesus was! And 2) Jesus is the point because He is the Christ, the Lamb of God, the Son of God, the One who takes away the sin of the World and baptizes with the Spirit. And the main takeaways are that: 1) We must engage in ministry, and 2) We must constantly fight to remember that Jesus is the point of our ministry.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What's your take on John the Baptist? From what you've read in the Bible, what do you think he was like in person? Would you want to hang out with him? Would he want to hang out with you?
3. Imagine hearing that someone in Osceola, WI was preaching in Jesus' name and baptizing people in the St. Croix river by the hundreds or thousands. What do you think you would do? What would it take for you to believe he was from God?
4. Do you have any thoughts on why John denied being Elijah or a prophet?
5. Have you ever met anyone who has had ministry "success" and tried to steal a little glory for themselves from it? Have you ever met anyone like John the Baptist who didn't? If God were to grant you a ministry of popularity and fruitfulness (comparable to that of John the Baptist), do you think you would be tempted at all to steal a little glory for yourself?
6. Would you describe yourself as characterized by bearing witness to Jesus? Why/not?
7. On a practical level, how can we be faithful in doing ministry while also remaining humble, giving all glory to Jesus?
8. What do you think you would have done if you were standing with John and the priests and Levites when Jesus approached?
9. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God in John?

## AREAS OF APPLICATION

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10. Ask your DG leader to help you think through how you could best engage in ministry through Grace Church.
11. Think of someone you would like to tell about Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Share that person's name with someone in your DG and ask them to pray for him/her with you. Tell that person about Jesus.
12. Find a prayer partner to join you in asking God to keep you faithful in ministry, bear fruit through it, and keep you humble.
13. Watch The Chosen's depiction of John the Baptist. Does it seem consistent with the Bible's depiction?
14. Draw or paint a picture depicting John 1:29.
15. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

## PRAYER POINTS

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16. Adoration. Praise God for being perfect. Praise God for working all things for the greatest good, in the greatest timing, and in the greatest ways. Praise God for being perfectly loving, merciful, and gracious. Praise God for being three in one.
17. Confession. Confess any reluctance to engage in ministry. Confess any prideful engagement in ministry. Confess any times you've been too afraid or embarrassed to talk about Jesus. Confess any ways you've tried to steal glory from Jesus.
18. Thanksgiving. Thank God for loving and saving you. Thank God for blessing our church with this time in John's Gospel. Thank God for your DG leader. Thank God for John the Baptist's example of faithful, humble ministry and John's recording it.
19. Supplication. Ask God to heal the sick and comfort the hurting among us. Ask God to keep us faithful through trial and persecution. Ask God to save our unbelieving neighbors through our faithful witness.