



The Unseen Voice | John 1:19-34

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As God worked through John the Baptist to prepare the way for His Son, He showed us three essential elements of being an effective witness for Jesus Christ.

The Jewish religious leadership in Jerusalem sent an investigative team to examine John the Baptist, and to see why multitudes were going out to hear him preach and be baptized (Mark 1:5).

1. A humble life (1:19-21, 25-27, 3:26-30)

2. A strong voice (1:22-23, cf. Romans 10:14; Isaiah 40:3)

3. A clear message (1:29-34; Genesis 22:8; Exodus 12: Isaiah 43:4-9)

Questions to Consider

1. How did 1st century Jews generally understand baptism, and why did this lead to questions about John's baptism?
2. How was John the Baptist like the Elijah foretold in Malachi 4:5, and how was he not Elijah?
3. What are the ways in which you commonly struggle with seeking attention? Are there aspects of your life in which you are allowing people to be impressed with your strength, kindness, peace, hope, etc., instead of clearly giving credit to the Lord?
4. How did John describe himself to the religious leaders? What Old Testament passage did he refer to as an explanation?
5. What is missing if all we do is live a good and humble life in front of unbelievers?
6. What are some of the Old Testament references to a sacrificial lamb and how are they fulfilled in Jesus?
7. Reread Isaiah 53:4-9. Mediate on what Jesus Christ did for us on the cross.
8. Why is it critical that we address the subject of sin as witnesses for Jesus Christ?