



**Northland Christian Church  
Group Discussion Guide  
For the Week of October 31, 2021**

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*Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. You do not have to answer every question. These are intended to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed. Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it.*

## Connect

- What is some of the best news you've received this year?
- If you just found out some really exciting news, who are the first three people you would tell?

## The Context

### John Chapter 1:19-28

Jesus is one of a kind, and he has come into our world and dwelt among us so that we could experience grace upon grace in our lives. In Jesus, we have the fullness of grace and truth that no other person in history has ever been able to provide. He has come that we might believe and be saved. That we might find forgiveness, hope, salvation, and purpose of life. He has come to make us a part of His family and His mission to the world. Today we meet John the Baptist, a witness and testimony of Jesus. Let's read through this passage together and see what it can look like to live a life that points people to Jesus.

## Engage the Bible - Read and Review Surprises, Takeaways, and Observations from:

### John 1:19-28 NIV

**"Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. 20 He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah." 21 They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." 22 Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23 John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'" 24 Now the Pharisees who had been sent 25 questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" 26 "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know. 27 He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie." 28 This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing."**

## Discuss

1. What was John the Baptist's mindset in responding to the religious leaders questions and attempt to elevate or alter his identity and place? (See verses 19-23)
2. John knew who he was in the Lord. He knew what the Lord wanted him to do: clear the way for the coming of Jesus the Messiah. How essential and helpful is it to know who we are in the Lord?
3. How helpful is it to know what the Lord has called us to do? What are some things that you think the Lord has called you to do? How has the Lord asked you to share your experience, story, gifts, talents, and skills?
4. How is knowing "who we are not" essential to a healthy Jesus-centered identity and witness?
5. Dave shared that John the Baptist's life was focused on pointing people to Jesus. How does your life point people to Jesus?

6. What was John's attitude toward Jesus? Read John 1:26-27 again. How did John's attitude toward his role in the ministry of Jesus affect his witness? You might also read [John 3:25-30](#) for more.
7. When we share our testimony with others, how important is our attitude? Can we be both confident and humble as we witness for Christ?
8. How can seeing Jesus more clearly and closely impact our desire and ability to share with others? How can remembering and reviewing all that Jesus has done for us help us to share these things with others?
9. Who first shared their testimony with you? Or who first introduced you to Jesus? What do you remember about this experience? Are there things that you have learned from this that can be useful in sharing with those you know or meet?
10. All of us have a testimony about what God has done and is currently doing in our life. We have our "before Jesus stories" and our "after I met Jesus" stories. Spend some time sharing together as a group.
11. How can we share these testimonies and point others to Jesus?
12. Who do you know that needs to know about the love and work of Jesus? Try to think of at least two people. Pray for them as a group.
13. As Christians who have a relationship with God through Jesus, besides sharing our testimonies, how can we make God known to the people we interact with in our lives?
14. As your group prays, thank God for people who have helped you to get to know Jesus, and pray for people who need to know him.

**End Your Group Time in Prayer**