



## New Witness

John 1:19-37

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### In a distracting world, how do we focus on what is most important?

John 20:31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (NIV)

#### Background (Matt. 3:1-17; 4:1)

People were drawn to John the Baptist because of his special birth, the angelic prophecy regarding him, his priestly heritage, his role as rabbi and prophet, his operation outside of the dead religious system, and the expectation that he could be the Messiah.

#### Day 1

To the Leaders: Know Jesus Messiah Is Here! (19-28)

#### Day 2

To the People: Behold Jesus Messiah! (29-34)

#### Day 3

To his Disciples: Follow Jesus Messiah! (35-37)

### To be a New Witness for Jesus I need to ask:

#### ▪ The Identity Question: Who am I? (19-23)

Malachi 3:1 "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me.... 4:5 See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before...the LORD comes. (NIV)

Deuteronomy 18:15 "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him." (NIV)

Isaiah 40:3 A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. 5 And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." (NIV)

I am not the Savior. I am just a voice.

Being a witness requires humility.

I cannot be an effective witness for Jesus if I am confused about who I am.

#### ▪ The Activity Question: What is my mission? (24-28)

My mission is to point people to Jesus.

When I know my mission, I do not chase every question.

My assignment is not to win arguments, but to point people to Jesus.

#### ▪ The Story Question: What is my message? (29-34)

Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all....he was led like a lamb to the slaughter... (NIV)

People need clarity, not confusion, about Jesus:

Who Jesus is: The Lamb of God / The Son of God

What Jesus does: Takes away the sin of the world

A witness simply shares their story about Jesus: "This is who Jesus is, and this is what he has done for me."

#### ▪ The Loyalty Question: Who will I follow? (35-37)

The greater my loyalty to Jesus, the greater my witness for Jesus.

Today, Jesus asks each of us, "Can I get a witness?"