



Sermon Discussion Guide

January 11th, 2025 | John 1:19-34 | Pastor Greg Doty

Series // The Gospel of John: Taste and See Who I Am

Summary

In John 1:19-34, John the Baptist introduces Jesus at the beginning of His ministry, much like a speaker is introduced before taking the stage. John points beyond himself to Jesus, declaring that Jesus is holy, eternal, and the Son of God. The Gospel writer's purpose is clear: he writes so that we would believe that Jesus is the Son of God and have life in His name (John 20:30-31). John exalts Jesus by making it clear that he himself is unworthy even to untie Jesus' sandals, showing that Jesus is greater than all and worthy of our worship. We need a Savior who is exalted—one who is bigger than our sin, our brokenness, and our problems. John also identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God, connecting Him to God's promise throughout Scripture: the lamb God would provide in Genesis, the Passover lamb in Exodus, and the suffering servant in Isaiah 53. As the Lamb of God, Jesus takes away the sin of the world—not merely removing sin, but bearing it upon Himself. John's baptism of water was a baptism of repentance meant to reveal Jesus, reminding us that salvation comes through repentance and belief. Even as believers, we are called to continually repent and trust in the One who takes our sin upon Himself.

Discussion Questions (John 1:19-34):

Icebreaker Question: Think about a time when someone introduced you to an important person or experience. How did that introduction shape your expectations?

Jesus is exalted

- Why do you think John the Baptist is so intentional about pointing away from himself?
- In what ways do we sometimes look for help that is "too small" for our problems?
- How does seeing Jesus as exalted change the way we respond to our sin, fear, or struggles?

Jesus is the Lamb of God

- Why do you think John uses the image of a "lamb" to describe Jesus?
- How do the Old Testament images (Genesis 22, Exodus 12-14, Isaiah 53) deepen your understanding of who Jesus is?

Jesus takes away

- How does the idea that Jesus bears our sin change how you view him?
- Why is repentance an essential part of receiving what Jesus has done?
- Why is repentance not just a one-time act but an ongoing posture for believers?

Closing Reflection & Prayer

- Is there an area of your life where you need to trust that Jesus is bigger than your sin or struggle?
- What is one practical step you can take this week to respond in repentance and belief?

Invite the group to thank Jesus for being the **Lamb of God** who takes away sin and to ask for hearts that continually repent and trust in Him.