

Discussion and Reflection Questions
Advent 2 - Transformed by Joy 14th of December 2025

Read: Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples

³ and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?'

⁴ Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see:

⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.

⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

⁸ What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces.

⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Questions

1. Why do you think that John The Baptist questions Jesus identity at this point? What sort of Messiah do you think John expects Jesus will be?
2. How did you come to understand that Jesus was "the one"? Can you relate to John's doubt?
3. Why do you think Jesus speaks so well of John (verses 7-11) even though John seems to doubt who he is?
4. How do you think this passage relates to the Advent theme of Joy?
5. How has God transformed you? How do you deal with change in your life & in the church?
6. John stays in jail & Jesus doesn't have him released. How does this relate to some of the difficult situations people go through & what does it say about how Jesus responds to the difficulties we go through?
7. How do we continue to tell what he have heard & seen?

Prayer

Sustain us, O God, with the power of your love
on our journey to meet the One who is coming:
strengthen our weak hands,
make firm our feeble knees,
and open blind eyes to the dawning of your kingdom,
so that our hearts may rejoice
as we behold the majesty of our God.
We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.