

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

BIG IDEA

08/02/26

This week's message concludes John the Baptist's testimony in John 3 with a powerful call to recognize Jesus for who He truly is—the divine Son of God who speaks with firsthand authority from heaven. Discover why belief in Christ is more than intellectual agreement, how God has called every believer to be a witness to His truth, and how the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit work together in the miracle of redemption. Through practical application and biblical insight, this sermon challenges us to move beyond passive faith into obedient trust, reminding us that eternal life is found in receiving Christ, following His words, and boldly sharing His Gospel with the world.

CONNECT Spend 10 minutes getting to know each other as a group by answering the following question.

Have you ever told someone about Jesus? How did it go?

DISCOVER Read John 3:32-36 out loud and answer questions focused on the details of the biblical text.

- 1. John says Jesus "bears witness to what He has seen and heard" (v. 32). How does this distinguish Jesus from every Old Testament prophet?**
- 2. Why is the deity of Christ essential to the gospel? What would be lost if Jesus were merely a prophet, teacher, or moral example?**
- 3. Read John 1:1–18, John 5:18–23, and Colossians 1:15–20. What aspects of Jesus' identity are emphasized in each passage?**



REFLECT

Review the following and use this time to discuss how your thoughts and feelings are affirmed and/or challenged.

John 8:42-47 NLT Jesus told them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, because I have come to you from God. I am not here on my own, but he sent me. Why can't you understand what I am saying? It's because you can't even hear me! For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies. So when I tell the truth, you just naturally don't believe me! Which of you can truthfully accuse me of sin? And since I am telling you the truth, why don't you believe me? Anyone who belongs to God listens gladly to the words of God. But you don't listen because you don't belong to God."

4. According to John 8:42–47, what role does spiritual deception play in unbelief? How should Christians think about spiritual warfare without ignoring human responsibility?

5. Compare the reasons for unbelief presented throughout John 3:

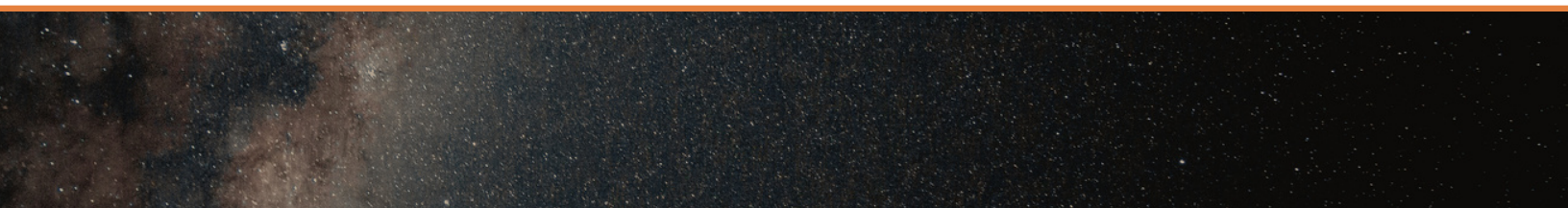
- Love of darkness
- Spiritual blindness
- Cost of discipleship
- Pride

APPLY

Use this time to discuss how the Big Idea and scriptures impact your view of the world around you.

6. After studying John 3, how has your understanding of Jesus changed, and what response does that call for in your life?

Prayer Requests:



GO DEEPER - WITNESS

“Sets his seal” [Greek] sphragizō – To prove, confirm, or attest a thing. To confirm, authenticate and place beyond doubt.

Acts 1:8 NLT But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my **witnesses**, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

- ***Jerusalem = Inner circle of family and friends [Example]***
- ***Judea = Next circle of relationships and acquaintances [Influence]***
- ***Samaria = Next circle of unchurched people of the community [Outreach]***
- ***Ends of earth = Last circle of lost people around the world [Missions]***

WITNESS: *μάρτυς (martyrs)* - One who gives testimony based on firsthand knowledge or experience.

Read each passage and answer:

John 1:7–8

Who is the witness? What is he witnessing about?

John 5:36–39

List every witness Jesus mentions.

Acts 1:8

Who are the witnesses? Where are they sent?

Revelation 1:5

Why is Jesus called "the faithful witness"?

APPLICATION:

Ask yourself:

- What have I personally experienced with Jesus?
- Who has God placed in my "Jerusalem" that needs my testimony?
- Am I trying to win arguments or faithfully tell the truth?
- Would someone know Christ better because they know me?

