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**John The Baptist – 10/05/2025**

**Opening Question(s): John the Baptist was commissioned by God to announce the immediate coming of Jesus and His Salvation. John called all to repentance. What is our responsibility as Christ-followers to bear witness to man’s need for repentance and salvation? Is that something you can do in your world? Discuss how we might be bolder in sharing the message of salvation with others.**

**Simple Sermon Summary: The life of John the Baptist is shared in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). John was to “pave the way” for the coming of Jesus Christ into His ministry to save the lost. John’s life and his relationship with Jesus defined his ministry and his death. He did not get to see the “finished” work of Christ on the Cross, but he believed in the mission Christ came to fulfill!**

**Scripture References: Luke 1:30-37, Luke 1:39 57, Luke 1:59 75, Luke 1:80, Luke 3:2-6, Luke 1:17, Matthew 3:5-10, Luke 3:10-14, Matthew 3:1-4, Matthew 3:11, Matthew 3:1-17, John 3:23-36, Matthew 14:1-5, Matthew 14:6-11, Acts 19:3-6, Mark 1:14, Luke 16:16, Matthew 11:11.**

**Discussion Questions:**

John the Baptist grew up in the wilderness surrounding Judea. We have no record of his activities during this time. But he comes out of the wilderness bold and ready to speak truth and call for the repentance of the people. Compare John’s time in the wilderness and young David’s time caring for, and protecting, the flocks of his family**. What do you think happened while John was living out there?**

John warned the Jewish people they could not stand on their heritage for their salvation. **What do you hear from non-believes about why they should “go to heaven?”**

John did not consider himself worthy to tie the sandals on Jesus’ feet. Humility is not an easy thing for us. **What would you consider to be your relationship with Jesus? Is it defined by your position (saved), by your service (actions) or by your faith?** Each of us may respond differently here. But living the relationship is what counts.

John’s stand for truth resulted in his arrest and execution**. What kind of price is demanded of us today to be witnesses for Jesus?**

John the Baptist preached about the coming age. It would be an age of a blessed assurance Jesus came, died for our sin, and was resurrected to glory to sit at the right hand of God. You and I have a privilege John did not live to see**. How does your life with the Holy Spirit of God living in you affect your human existence?**