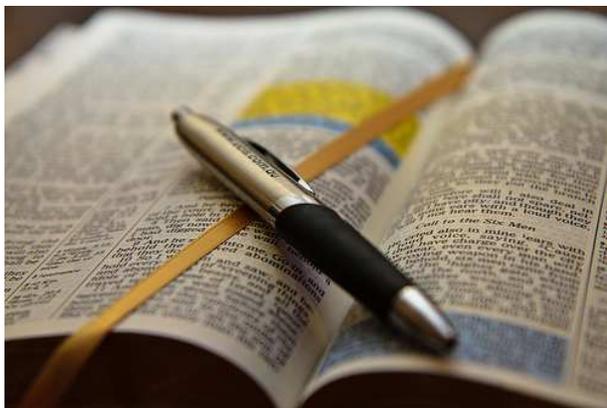


Bible Study

Gods Word in Focus



Week Three

Gospel of John

1:19-28

John the Baptist tells people about Jesus

- Through God's direction, John the Baptist challenged the people to prepare for the coming of the Messiah by turning away from sin and being baptized as a symbol of repentance
- Although he held no power or influence in the Jewish political system, he delivered his message with the force of authority. People could not resist the overpowering truth of his words, as they flocked by the hundreds to hear him and be baptized. And even as he attracted the attention of the crowds, he never lost sight of his mission—to point people to Christ.

“whose sandal strap I am not
worthy to loose”

"Who are you?" John the Baptist had no difficulty answering this question when the authorities came to investigate him.

Why did the Jewish leaders question John the Baptist's identity? They were in earnest to know if the Messiah had come. They wanted to know if John claimed to be the Messiah or one of the great prophets who was expected to return at the coming of the Messiah

Life Lessons

- *John the Baptist did not set out with the goal of being different from everyone else. Although he was remarkably strange, he wasn't merely aiming at uniqueness. Rather, he targeted all of his efforts toward obedience.*
- *When we come to realize that God has given us a specific purpose for our lives, we can move forward with confidence, fully trusting the One who called us. Like John the Baptist, we don't have to fear living with a radical focus on our God-given mission. Can there be any greater joy or fulfillment in this life than to know God's pleasure and reward awaits us in heaven?*