

## SERMON-BASED STUDY: THE BAPTISM

**John 1:29-34, ESV** – <sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

### Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we learned that the Baptism of Jesus was significant for many reasons. What does John mean when he says, “After me comes a man who ranks before me”?
- 2 Why is John’s eye witness so important? What acts of Jesus have you been an eye witness to?
- 3 Why is it important that Jesus baptizes believers with the Holy Spirit?

## DIGGING DEEPER

**A** *Exodus 29:38-42, ESV – <sup>38</sup>“Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old day by day regularly. <sup>39</sup>One lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight. <sup>40</sup>And with the first lamb a tenth measure of fine flour mingled with a fourth of a hin of beaten oil, and a fourth of a hin of wine for a drink offering. <sup>41</sup>The other lamb you shall offer at twilight, and shall offer with it a grain offering and its drink offering, as in the morning, for a pleasing aroma, a food offering to the LORD. <sup>42</sup>It shall be a regular burnt offering throughout your generations at the entrance of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there.*

**1 John 2:2, ESV – <sup>2</sup>He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.**

- 4 When looking at Exodus 29:38-42, we see that the lamb was a significant part of the Israelites sacrificial system. Why is the lamb such an important part of their system? Why was it necessary for the Israelites to sacrifice a lamb on such a regular basis (twice per day)?
- 5 What would John’s statement in John 1:29 have meant to the first century Jews who heard it?
- 6 Why is Jesus able to take the place of the lamb and thereby do away with the sacrificial system? What does it mean for Jesus to be the “propitiation for our sins”?

**B** **Matthew 16:13-16, ESV** – <sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

**John 20:31, ESV** – <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**7** Looking at the passages above, we see that Jesus is the Son of God. What does it mean for Jesus to be the Son of God?

**8** What would John’s statement in John 1:34 have meant to the first century Jews who heard it?

**9** Why is belief in Jesus as the Son of God critical to the gospel message?

## TAKING IT HOME

Part of our witness is to tell the story of Jesus as the Lamb of God and the Son of God. Why are both important to understand in regards to the identity of Jesus? How have you explained these two important aspects of Jesus’ identity to nonbelievers? If you have not, how would you? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to be the best witnesses for Christ you can be.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Genesis 22:7-13  
Exodus 12  
Isaiah 42:1, 53:3-12  
Romans 3:25  
2 Corinthians 5:21  
Hebrews 2:17, 9:24-10:18  
1 John 4:10