



Read John 1:29-37

²⁹The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is He of whom I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because He was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know Him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that He might be revealed to Israel." ³²Then John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove and resting on Him. ³³I myself did not know Him, but the One who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit descend and rest is He who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God." ³⁵The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶When he saw Jesus walking by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷And when the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus

Background

In this series, "Unwrapping Christmas," we have seen specific ways the John the apostle introduces us to the person and work of Jesus. In the opening chapter, John describes Jesus as the eternal Word through whom all life finds its origin. As the Word, Jesus also gives light 'to all men' and gives new life to those who trust in Him. At the end of the first chapter of the Gospel of John, we find one another powerful description of Jesus – the Lamb of God! Today, Pastor David will help us understand the significant background to this messianic title and how each of us can place our hope in this Lamb of God 'who takes away the sins of the world.'

Service Notes

What is your biggest takeaway from today's message?

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Instructions

This discussion guide is to help you facilitate a conversation with your small group. The “Getting Started” section serves as a quick opener and introduction to the group conversation. In the “Talk it Over” section, feel free to use all or only some of the questions. Again, our hope is to have meaningful and encouraging conversations around the passage used in the sermon, not simply answer all the questions. Give each member of your group opportunity to respond. Take your time. Finally, the “Live it Out” section is to help identify a specific next step. Use these questions as a guide to find practical ways to apply the passage to our everyday life.

Getting Started

- ▼ What was the biggest take away from the message this week? In what ways did you experience God at work in your life this week? How can we pray for you?

Talk it Over

- ▼ **Read Isaiah 53:4-7.** How do you think people would have responded to John the Baptist’s declaration that Jesus is the “Lamb of God?” How would they have understood the title? How does Jesus fulfill the prophecy in Isaiah 53?
- ▼ **Read Hebrews 9:11-22 and Hebrews 10:1-14.** According to these passages, why was Jesus’ death necessary for our salvation? In what ways is Jesus’ death as the ‘Lamb of God’ different from previous sacrifices of physical lambs? Why is this so important for our lives? Why should Jesus’ death (and resurrection) give us great hope and confidence right now?
- ▼ **Read John 1:6-8 and John 1:19-27.** How does John (the author) describe John the Baptist and his unique role? What lessons can we learn from the way John the Baptist spoke about himself and Jesus? How did John the Baptist understand his role and purpose? In what ways can we practically ‘point people to Jesus’ in our daily lives?
- ▼ **Read Revelation 5.** John uses the word ‘lamb’ nearly 40 times in the book of Revelation. How does John describe the Lamb in this chapter? What is the response? What should our response be to knowing the Lamb (who was slain) is worthy to receive glory and honor? How should this shape our daily lives?

Live it Out

During this Christmas season, what is one specific way you can ‘point people to Jesus’ as the Lamb of God? Commit today to taking a step of obedience to share Christ with someone this Christmas.

