

Sunday Text Questions for John 1:19-34

September 9, 2018
Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Starter Question: If you were confronted about your work for Jesus, what would you say about yourself?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Why do you think Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to question John (v. 19; see also v. 22)?
- 4) Why does v. 20 give such an awkwardly strong introduction to the confession of John that he is NOT the Christ, Elijah, or the Prophet?
- 5) Read Deuteronomy 18:15-22, the Old Testament prophecy that speaks about “the Prophet.” How does that text help explain the question in v. 21? Who is the person who fulfills this prophecy?
- 6) How is the baptism of John different from the baptism of Jesus (vv. 25-26)? How does that explain the “newness” of the New Covenant and the new work Jesus accomplishes?
- 7) In v. 27 John makes a remarkable statement about the incalculable worth of Jesus in comparison to himself. How can we grow to see Jesus as that worthy? How will we live differently once we see ourselves as unworthy before Christ?
- 8) What does John’s declaration in v. 29 mean: “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world?”
- 9) A lot of mysterious but important things happen in vv. 31-34. What does the scene with the Spirit descending and remaining upon Jesus explain to the reader? Why is this an important event to place at the front of the Gospel story?
- 10) This passage makes a big deal out of the term “testimony” and “witness” (vv. 19, 32, 34). How are Christians and the church called to serve as witnesses of Christ today?

Further study this week: John 1:1-18 to remind you of the Gospel’s spectacles (Mon); Deuteronomy 18 on “the Prophet” (Tues); Malachi 3-4 on “Elijah” (Wed); Isaiah 40, esp. v. 3, on John’s confession (Thurs); Psalm 145 on the incalculable worth of God (Fri).