

Digging Deeper: John 1:19–34

Written by Robert Lee (elder)

Day 1 (Monday):

Pray.

Read Matthew 3:1; John 2:18, 5:10 and 16, 6:41 and 52, 7:1, 10:24; John 3:28; and Luke 3:15–16.

In John 1:19, John the Baptist used the phrase "the Jews" in reference to Jewish leaders. What part of the Jewish society was John referring to in this scenario, and why is this significant? Have you ever found yourself questioning whether Jesus exists in your life?

Day 2 (Tuesday):

Pray.

Read Matthew 11:14 and Deuteronomy 18:15.

After John the Baptist emphatically denied that he was the Christ (John 1:21), the Jews asked John if he was Elijah, which he also denied. Why were the Jews so concerned whether or not John was the Prophet? If you knew that the end was near, what areas of your life would you be most concerned with?

Day 3 (Wednesday):

Pray.

Read Isaiah 40:3.

In John 1:23, John applied the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3 to his own ministry. What specifically was John calling the people to do? What did the men of Qumran do differently than John, and what was the result of their actions? Have you ever experienced a feeling of isolation from someone or something that you desire to be a part of?

Day 4 (Thursday):

Pray.

Read Mark 1:4; John 1:15, 30; and Mark 1:7.

In John 1:25, some Pharisees question why John baptizes since he admittedly is not the Christ. In verse 26, John the Baptist refers to "the Christ" as one you do not know who is among you. What is the significance behind the name "Christ" that had the Jews so concerned? (Reference: 1 Samuel 16:1, 13 and 26:11 or Exodus 40:13–15; Leviticus 4:3)

Day 5 (Friday):

Pray.

Read John 1:36; Genesis 22:8; Isaiah 53:7; 1 Peter 1:19; Revelation 5:6, 13:8; and John 3:17.

In verse 29, John the Baptist refers to Jesus as "the Lamb of God," who takes away the sin of the world. Lamb of God is a biblical expression found only in John 1:29 and 36. What might this name mean to the Jewish people of the time (Isaiah 53:7; Jeremiah 11:19; and Genesis 22:8)? Who was John the Baptist saying that Jesus is? Where does Jesus reside in your life today?

Day 6 (Saturday):

Pray.

Read Matthew 3:15–16; Mark 1:4, 8, and 49; and Matthew 4:3.

In John 1:32–34, John the Baptist gives his testimony as to who Christ is. What is the significance behind Jesus' baptism, and what happened immediately after he was baptized? (Reference: Matthew 3:16–17; Mark 1:10–13, and Luke 3:21b–22)