

Read Matthew 3:8-10. John called out religious leaders who trusted in their heritage. In what ways might we be tempted to rely on religious identity rather than genuine transformation?

Read John 3:22-30. John said of Jesus, "He must increase, but I must decrease." What would it practically look like for you to "decrease" in a relationship, role, or ambition this season?

**Prayer Requests**

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**April 26, 2026 - John the Baptist**

Scripture References

Luke 3:3 • Matthew 3:5-8 • John 1:29; 3:26-30 • Mark 6:17-29  
Matthew 11:2-6 • Isaiah 35:5-6; 61:1 • Ephesians 4:15  
Luke 7:24-28

- 1) To \_\_\_\_\_ means to change the way you think; to turn around; to stop going away from God and to turn towards him.
  
- 2) Like John, we should find our \_\_\_\_\_ and significance in God himself and in the purpose he has given us.
  
- 3) "The heart cannot long \_\_\_\_\_ what the mind cannot \_\_\_\_\_."

Grace Bible Church • Message by Dave Zierenberg  
Video and notes available at [www.gbcs1.com](http://www.gbcs1.com)

- 4) It is not wrong to have \_\_\_\_\_ about faith. But we should do what John did: Ask \_\_\_\_\_ and look for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) If you don't care about finding answers, you're \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) If God created you and has \_\_\_\_\_ for you, the implications of \_\_\_\_\_ that are enormous.
- 7) Jesus answered John's question by telling him to look at the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) When a passage of scripture accurately \_\_\_\_\_ something that \_\_\_\_\_ hundreds of years later, that is evidence.
- 9) Ask \_\_\_\_\_. Look for \_\_\_\_\_. Consider the \_\_\_\_\_. And \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10) In our world people talk about "speaking \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_," but we are more like Christ when we speak truth in love.

### Small Group Discussion Questions

Please try to think these over and jot down some ideas prior to discussing them at the meeting, it will improve the discussion.



Read Luke 1:5-17. John was set apart from birth. What does it mean for your life that God can have a purpose for someone before they fully understand it themselves?

Read Matthew 11:2-6. John, from prison, sent messengers asking Jesus "Are you the one, or should we look for another?" What does this tell us about doubt in the life of a faithful person?

John's central message was repentance. What is repentance and what does genuine repentance look like in daily life?

Continued on reverse.