



BEREAN
SMALL GROUPS

FOR THE GOSPEL
ROMANS 1:16

Journey to the Cross: Behold the Lamb of God

John 1:28-34

Read John 1:28-34 Together:

These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 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.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

Study the Texts:

- ? Read John 1:29. What does John the Baptist's declaration about Jesus tell us about who Jesus is and who we are?
- ? Read 1 Peter 1:18-21. What do these verses tell us about the significance of our sin? How can understanding the price of our sin encourage us to behold Jesus?
- ? Read John 1:32-34. How do John's words reveal who Jesus is? How does John's testimony of Jesus' identity encourage us to behold him?
- ? Read Romans 3:23. What do Paul's words tell us about sin? What do they tell us about the sliding standards of goodness we tend to adopt?
- ? Read John 1:30-31. Why did God send John the Baptist before Jesus? How do John's words reveal that purpose?

Take a Deeper Look at Sin:

(What is sin? Why is sin such a big deal? Why should we care about our sin?)

- ? Pastor Deven said that sin is anything we say, think, do, or fail to do, that robs God of what is due him. How does this definition of sin challenge the standards of goodness the world puts forth?
- ? What are some of the consequences of sin that we see in the world and in our own lives? How do these emphasize the terrible significance of sin?
- ? Because of our sin, we cannot restore our relationship with God apart from perfection. How does knowing the cost of our sin lead us to worship Jesus for what he's done?

Behold Jesus as the True Rescuer:

- ? In what ways do people try to deal with their sin apart from Jesus?
- ? How does Jesus prove he is the only one who can truly rescue us from sin?
- ? How does knowing what we deserve apart from Jesus encourage us to behold him?
- ? What does God's "honest diagnosis" of our state apart from him tell us about how he loves us?
- ? Why do you think we tend to simply glance at Jesus rather than behold him? How can we slow down and take opportunities to behold him this week?