

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on Themes in the Gospel of John. Today's topic: WITNESSES OF CHRIST AS THE MESSIAH.

**1) The witness of John the Baptist**

- a. John 1:6-7 What are your thoughts about the apostle John's concise introduction of John the Baptist?
- b. What impresses you about John the Baptist's description of his mission? John 1:19-27
- c. Why did John the Baptist need to clearly testify, "I am not the Christ"? Luke 3:2-15
- d. What evidence do you find that John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus was inspired by God? John 1:29-36
- e. What other passages of Scripture confirm John the Baptist's testimony that Jesus is the Lamb of God? Isaiah 53:4-7, Revelation 5:8-13, etc.
- f. What lesson can we learn from John the Baptist's testimony to his disciples about Jesus? John 3:25-30

**2) The witness of those Jesus called to follow Him**

- a. Which two disciples of John the Baptist heard his testimony about Jesus and wanted to learn more about Jesus? John 1:35-40
- b. What do you think Jesus shared with Andrew and John during their time together? (notice what Jesus shared on other occasions—John 5:39, Luke 24:27)
- c. What can we learn from Andrew's response to the teaching of Jesus? John 1:40-42
- d. Who else did Jesus call to follow Him and how did he respond? John 1:43-46

- e. What can we learn from the way Jesus interacted with Nathanael? John 1:47-51
- f. What relative or friend do you know who needs to find a personal relationship with Jesus? How might you invite that person to "come and see"?

**3) The witness of Nicodemus**

- a. What can we learn about Nicodemus from his initial interaction with Jesus? John 3:1-2
- b. What "signs" performed by Jesus might Nicodemus have witnessed or heard about? (see John 2)
- c. John 3:3-21 Why do you think Jesus gave such a long response to this ruler of the Jews?
- d. How do you think Nicodemus responded to this initial interaction with Jesus which included a stern rebuke (John 3:10)?
- e. What evidence do you find in John's Gospel that confirms the conviction of Jesus that Nicodemus was an earnest seeker of truth? John 7:45-52, 19:38-39
- f. What encouragement do you find in the life and witness of Nicodemus?
- g. How would you respond to a friend who asks you, "What does it mean to be born again"?
- h. When were you born again?

