
TABLE TALK

Our Witness

Prepare:

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As one person lights a candle, the family reads together: (based on Isaiah 61)

C: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;

R: my soul shall exult in my God,

C: for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

R: he has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

Read: John 1:6-8, 19-28 (ESV)

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

19 And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." 22 So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" 23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

24 (Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) 25 They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" 26 John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, 27 even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." 28 These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Reflect:

John was sent by God to witness to Jesus, the light of the world. John's importance is not only that he was sent to prepare the way for Jesus, but that all might believe because of his witness. Like John, we witness to Jesus, and through our witness the Holy Spirit works faith.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (John 1:6-8, 19-28) means for you as a family.

Now share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family.

Pray:

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The head of the household prays:

God Almighty, we thank you for sending your servant John the Baptist to witness to Jesus, the light of the world. In this Advent season, help us to bear witness to Jesus in everything we say and do. Amen.