

Introduction: Describe a time when you anticipated a meeting with an important person. What preparation did you make? Were you nervous? How did the encounter unfold?

I. Who are you? (John 1:19-23)

- A. John makes clear who he is not. What would be the significance of each title?
 - 1) The Christ:
 - 2) Elijah: (see Mal. 4:5-6)
 - 3) The Prophet: (see Deut. 18:15)
- B. How should we understand John's explanation in light of Jesus' (Matt. 11:7-14)?
- C. How does John positively identify himself? (see Is. 40:1-5) What is John's task?
- D. Comment on this quote, "No man is what he himself thinks he is. He is only what Jesus knows him to be." (Leon Morris, John, pg. 136)

II. Why are you baptizing? (John 1:24-28)

- A. What do the Pharisees ask John? What seems to be behind their question?
- B. What is the point of John's response to the Pharisee's question?
- C. Who would perform the task of untying the thong of someone's sandal?
- D. What is the lowliest task you've ever performed? Relate your experience to John.

III. Who is the Lamb? (John 1:29-31)

- A. John identifies Jesus as **the Lamb of God**. What is the significance of this term?
- B. How is the same term used in the following passages?
 - 1) Acts 8:30-35:
 - 2) I Pet. 1:17-21
- C. According to vs. 31, what are the two purposes of John's ministry?
- D. Reflect on the scope of the Lamb's work: 'He takes away the sin of the world.'

IV. What will the Lamb do? (John 1:32-34)

- A. How did John identify Jesus as the Lamb of God? (see Matt. 3:13-17)
- B. Now how does John describe Jesus? (vs. 33) What is the significance of this for us?