

Study Guide for December 9th, 2007. The Witness to the Light. John 1:6-9

Introduction: When have you felt used by God to speak about Christ to non-believers? What have you learned from that and other situations like that regarding being a witness?

I. John and Jesus.

A. Fill in the blanks to develop a comparison between John and Jesus.

- 1) (John was) a _____ sent from God (vs. 6), but the Word (Jesus) was _____ (vs. 1).
- 2) He (John) came as a _____ to testify concerning that light (vs. 7), but (Jesus was) the _____ that gives light to every man (vs. 9).
- 3) His name was _____ (vs. 6) . . . He himself (John) was _____ the light (vs. 8), but Grace and truth came through _____ (vs. 17).

B. Read John 3:26-30 and then answer the following questions.

- 1) What do John's disciples seem to be struggling with in this passage?
- 2) How does John here describe himself in comparison to Jesus?
- 3) Reflect on these two statements of John's, "A man can receive only what is given him from heaven," and "He must become greater; I must become less." What lessons can you derive from the self-awareness of John in relation to Jesus?

II. John: A Witness.

- A. Imagine that you are a lawyer preparing to argue a case. What qualities would you want in the people you will call to be your witnesses?
- B. What is the purpose of John's witness on behalf of Jesus? (vs. 7)
- C. Read John 1:19-34. Summarize the testimony that John gives concerning Jesus.
- D. What must happen if you are to be a more effective witness to point others to Jesus?

III. John: A Lamp.

- A. How is Jesus described in vs. 9.
- B. How does Jesus describe John? (see John 5:35)
- C. How has Jesus, the true light, given light to you?