

the story

GOD'S STORY IS OUR STORY

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Who is _____ ?

John the Baptist: He is the _____ .

“ Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, 'I am not the Messiah.'

They asked him, 'Then who are you? Are you Elijah?'

He said, 'I am not.'

'Are you the Prophet?'

He answered, 'No.'

Finally they said, 'Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?'

John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, 'I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'

Now the Pharisees who had been sent questioned him, 'Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?'

'I baptize with water,' John replied, 'but among you stands one you do not know. He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.' "

~ JOHN 1:19-27 (NIV)

“ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!' " ~ JOHN 1:29 (NIV)

God Himself: He is _____ .

“ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?'

Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.' Then John consented.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.' "

~ MATTHEW 3:13-17 (NIV)

Nicodemus: He _____ .

“ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.' "

~ JOHN 3:1-2 (NIV)

“ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

~ JOHN 3:16-17 (NIV)

Jesus Himself: I am the _____.

“ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Will you give me a drink?’ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?’ (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.’ ”

~ JOHN 4:7-10 (NIV)

“ The woman said, ‘I know that Messiah’ (called Christ) ‘is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.’ Then Jesus declared, ‘I, the one speaking to you - I am he.’ ”

~ JOHN 4:25-26 (NIV)

So WHAT?

Who is _____ ?

“ When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’ Jesus replied, ‘Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.’ ”

~ MATTHEW 11:2-6 (NIV)

John asks: _____ ?

“ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But what about you?’ he asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’ ”

~ MATTHEW 16:13-15 (NIV)

Is Jesus a _____ ? A _____ ? Or _____ ?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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- 1 - How can a single life change the world? Who are some people who have changed the world? Who are some people who have changed your life?
- 2 - If someone asked you “Who is Jesus?” How would you answer?
- 3 - Even if you don't believe in Jesus as Lord and savior, He is still a central figure in history. How have you heard people answer the question: “Who is Jesus?”

- 4 - Read Exodus 12:1-13. First century Jews would have known very well the Passover lamb and the sacrificial system. When John called Jesus “The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” what do you think passerby people thought?
- 5 - Read John 4:21-24. Jesus told the woman at the well that God looks for people who will worship the Father in Spirit and truth. What helps you connect with God's Holy Spirit?
- 6 - As Jesus called people to follow him, many immediately invited someone else to meet Jesus. Who has God placed in your life that you would like to know Jesus?
- 7 - John the Baptist has doubts near the end of his life. When have doubts crept into your heart about who Jesus is? How have you resolved those doubts?

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