

Title: “Now, Introducing Jesus”

Text: John 1:29, Matthew 3:13-17

Target: The greatest privilege of John the Baptist was to introduce Jesus to the world, but that same privilege God gives us every day. Seize the Moment you have been given!

1. The Importance of our Belief: (John 1:29)

- a. **Take Notice:** “Behold”- to Stop, Look, and Listen.
- b. **Take Notion:** “the **Lamb** of God”- The sinless substitutionary sacrifice (i.e. 1 Peter 1:19, Revelation 5:12, 12:11)
- c. **Take Note:** “who **takes** away the sin of the world!” (i.e. 1 John 3:5)

2. The Importance of our Baptism: (Matthew 3:13-16)

- a. **Sentiment in the Hesitation:** “John would have **prevented** him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” (Vs.14)
- b. **Statement of Identification:** “But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is **fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**” (Vs.15)
 - i. **Authenticating:** John the Baptist as Prophet
 - ii. **Communicating:** Humility and Obedience
- c. **Symbol of Regeneration:** “And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went **up from the water...**” (Vs. 16)

3. The Importance of our Belonging: (Matthew 3:16-17)

- a. **Symbolism of the Dove:** “...he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;..”
- b. **Significance of this Declaration:**
 - i. **You are beloved:** “This is **my beloved**”
 - ii. **You are blessed:** “with whom I am **well pleased**”

Take Away: Never forget you have been **embraced** by the Father, therefore, never be **embarrassed** of the father, and now go **engage** the world on behalf of the father!