

**LW** – John 1:6-18

**Respond** – No man/teaching/religion/church is THE Light/Life; To bear witness of Light/life

**Respond** – Jesus comes and gives light to every man, every man than chooses reject/receive!

\* Receive His love, live in His love, count on His love & love Him back/don't abuse His love

**Respond** – And of His fullness we have all received, grace from grace! God giver/Jesus gift

John's Testimony/Witness of Himself

**19** Now 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."

\* **Not Messiah** - Not the fulfillment Messianic prophesies of the O.T. - Dan 7, Isa 9, Ps 22

\* **Not Elijah** – Not fulfillment of **Malachi 4:5** - Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

\* **Not the Prophet** – Not the fulfillment of **Deuteronomy 18:15** -"The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,

**22** Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" **23** He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the LORD," ' as the prophet Isaiah said."

\* **I am** - the fulfillment of **Isaiah 40:3** -The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God.

**Respond** – We are not the Messiah/Elijah/Prophet, We can Prepare way/Lord for people

**24** Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. **25** And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" **26** John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. **27** It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." **28** These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

\* Religious wanted to argue about authority – because he/message was challenging theirs!

\* John only wanted to talk about Jesus!

**Respond** – Many people want to argue about religious stuff, we don't want to argue with people, we want to love people. We don't want to argue about religious stuff, we only want to talk about Jesus!

**29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” **30** This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’

\* **The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World**

**1. Exodus 12:1-13**

**2. Genesis 22** – Abraham & Isaac

**3. Isaiah 53:7-8** - He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. **8** He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

**4. Revelation 5:6-9**

**Respond**

\* **Purpose #1 – but these are written that you might believe that...Jesus is the Christ**

**31** I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.” **32** And John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. **33** I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ **34** And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”

\* **John** – 1) Bore witness, 2) I saw, I did not know, I have seen, I testify that this is Son/God

\* **Purpose #2 – but these are written that you might believe that...He is the Son of God**

**Respond**

\* Everyone who has believed/received Jesus Christ as Lord can:

1. Bear Witness
2. Speak the Truth of what you have seen and experienced
3. Testify who Jesus is!

\* That this is the Son of God – The Lamb of God/takes away sins/world = Son of God

**Conclusion**

**Respond** – We are not the Messiah/Elijah/Prophet, We can Prepare way/Lord for people

**Respond** – Many people want to argue about religious stuff, we don’t want to argue with people, we want to love people. We don’t want to argue about religious stuff, we only want to talk about Jesus!

**Respond** – Jesus is the Christ – the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

\* The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

**Respond** – We can all 1) Bear witness 2) Speak/truth/seen/experienced, 3) Testify of Jesus!