

Principles for a Path Maker
John 1:19-34; 3:22-36

“He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ And he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of fathers to their children, and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to make ready for the Lord a prepared people.”

Luke 1:16-17

Matthew 3:4- 6

“Now John had a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the vicinity of the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.”

1. **We Must Deflect The Praise!** (John 1:19-28)

“He must increase, but I must decrease”.

Now, what does that look like in real life?

- **At Work: Ambition vs Integrity**

👉 Christ increases when your **character matters more than your climb.**

- **In Marriage: Winning vs. Loving**

👉 Christ increases when your marriage reflects **grace over ego.**

- **Social Media: Image vs. Authenticity**

👉 Christ increases when your identity isn't built on **likes, comments, or comparison.**

- **Money: Security vs. Stewardship**

👉 Christ increases when your **trust shifts from your bank account to God's provision.**

- **Busyness: Control vs. Availability**

👉 Christ increases when your life has **margin for ministry.**

- **Faith Conversations: Silence vs. Courage**

👉 Christ increases when you value **faithfulness over comfort.**

2. We Must Declare the Person (John 1:29-34)

“...the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

The Greek word for “**takes away**” can also mean “**take up.**”

3. We must Delineate The Path (3:31-36).

“The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who rejects the Son will not see life, instead, the wrath of God remains on him.”

We are given just 2 choices.

- If you believe – you have life

- If you reject – wrath remains.