

Sermon Notes Outline

I. Introduction

- Focus: Early chapters of the Book of John, highlighting the unique ministry of John the Baptist
- Pastor: Josh

II. Contextual Setting

- John the Baptist's role in preparation for the coming Messiah
- Key Reference: John 1

III. John the Baptist's Identity

- Denial of being the Messiah, Elijah, or "the prophet" (Deuteronomy 18)
- His self-identification:
 - "The voice of one crying in the wilderness" (Isaiah 40:3)
- Emphasis on humility and mission

IV. Recognition of Jesus as the Lamb of God

- John's statement: "Behold, the Lamb of God" (John 1:29, 36)
- Scriptural connections:
 - **Genesis 22:** Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac, foreshadowing Jesus' sacrifice
 - **Isaiah 53:** The suffering servant, symbolizing Jesus as a sacrificial lamb

V. Call to Action

- Reflection on personal readiness and spiritual preparation
- Urging the congregation to emulate John the Baptist:
 - Leading others to Jesus
 - Avoiding personal glory
- Themes of humility, service, and community support

VI. Conclusion

- Reiterating the message of spiritual engagement and readiness
- Encouragement to reflect on John the Baptist's life as a model for Christian living

