

John the Baptist

Craig Walker

START TALKING - Find conversations starters for the group or with a friend.

This series is all about how do we learn from the heroes of faith, if you look through Hebrews 11, which ones are your favourite stories and why?

KEEP READING - Read the Scripture and ask a question to get the group thinking.

Mathew 3:1-12

- Read this Scripture out loud together.
- What stands out to you in this passage? Are there any parts that you don't understand/have a question about?
- What do you already know about John the Baptist?

Mathew 11:7-9

Craig talked about how John demonstrated humble power (which is evidenced by the clothes he wore and the food he ate).

- What are often used as symbols of power?
- What characteristics make good leaders?
- How did Jesus demonstrate power? (He came to serve not be served etc).
- As followers of Jesus, how can we reflect this in our places of influence?

John also pointed to Jesus, even to the point of letting his own followers leave him to go and follow Jesus (John 1).

- What does it mean to seek first the kingdom of God and his mission? How can we practically do this?

KEEP TALKING - Choose questions to create openness.

John called the religious leader to repentance (U-turn) and challenged their assumption that their heritage was enough for their salvation.

- "Real faith isn't a belief system, a philosophical position, or a best guess. It is a transformed, U-turned life." What do you think of this statement?
- What assumptions do you hold that hold you back from getting closer to Jesus?
- How can you demonstrate a life transformed by Jesus and how does this look different from those who don't yet know Jesus?

KEEP MOVING/GOING -Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- As you reflect on the life of John the Baptist, what's your one major takeaway?

KEEP PRAYING

- Prayer requests from everyone at group
- Pray