

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

ENCOUNTER

Jesus

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

We are a family of
imperfect people
following the
perfect Savior,
Jesus.



Belong

Reach

Grow

“Main Character Syndrome”:

Aka ‘Main Character Energy’

A series of behaviors in which you see yourself as the main character in the story of your life. Everyone else is a supporting actor, sidekick or villain.

Who is John the Baptist?

¹⁵ [He] will be great in the eyes of the Lord. He must never touch wine or other alcoholic drinks. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth. ¹⁶ And he will turn many Israelites to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ He will be a man with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and he will cause those who are rebellious to accept the wisdom of the godly.”

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“I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist.” - **MATT. 11:11a** NLT

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⁵ All of Judea, including all the people of Jerusalem, went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. ⁶ His clothes were woven from coarse camel hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. For food he ate locusts and wild honey. - **MARK 1:5-6** NLT

¹⁹ This was John's testimony when the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?"

²⁰ He didn't deny it but confessed, "I am not the Messiah."

²¹ "What then?" they asked him. "Are you Elijah?" "I am not," he said.

"Are you the Prophet?"

"No," he answered.

²² “Who are you, then?” they asked. “We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What can you tell us about yourself?”

²³ He said, “I am a voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord — just as Isaiah the prophet said.”

²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ So they asked him, “Why then do you baptize if you aren’t the Messiah, or Elijah, or the Prophet?”

JOHN 1:19-34 CSB

²⁶ “I baptize with water,” John answered them. “Someone stands among you, but you don’t know him. ²⁷ He is the one coming after me, whose sandal strap I’m not worthy to untie.” ²⁸ All this happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

POINT:

**I am not the
main
character of
the story.**

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"...Life is not about us—we are not the center. God is. We are not in control. He is. And when we let that truth settle in, it frees us from **the exhausting burden of self-importance** and opens us to the joy of worship."

Matt Chandler, Becoming Like Jesus

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²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is the one I told you about: ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me, because he existed before me.’ ³¹ I didn’t know him, but I came baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³² And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and he rested on him.

JOHN 1:19-34 CSB

³³ I didn't know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The one you see the Spirit descending and resting on — he is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

JOHN 1:19-34 CSB

POINT:

**Jesus is the
main
character of
the story.**

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Living like Jesus is the main character:

- **Power** (*Matthew 20:28*)

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Living like Jesus is the main character:

- **Power** (*Matthew 20:28*)
- **Possessions** (*Matthew 6:19-21*)

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Living like Jesus is the main character:

- **Power** (*Matthew 20:28*)
- **Possessions** (*Matthew 6:19-21*)
- **Picking your words** (*Philippians 2:14*)

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Living like Jesus is the main character:

- **Power** (*Matthew 20:28*)
- **Possessions** (*Matthew 6:19-21*)
- **Picking your words** (*Philippians 2:14*)
- **Peace** (*Philippians 4:6-7*)

ENCOUNTER

Jesus

“I am a voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord”

JOHN 1:23



POINT:

**The purpose of
my life is to tell
the greater story.**

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