

# Week 1.1 - John Testifies about Jesus

*Small Group Lesson*

## OBJECTIVE:

- John 29-34

## EXPLORE:

(These are different commentary notes that can be used to explain the context to our students. Feel free to use your own.)

### Location

- The following events took place in the small town of Bethany which was an area located east of the Jordan River (John 1:28)
- Bethany was located in the region of Judea.
- The following cities and locations were near Bethany: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Mount of Olives

### John the Baptist

- Prophecy and Prophets - "Prophecy is bringing a word directly from God under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and a prophet was someone, male or female, who brought that word."
- John the Baptist was a Prophet who was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth and also the cousin of Jesus.
- John the Baptist prophesied the coming of Jesus Christ expressing that He is the Savior of the World.

### Baptism

- Water baptism is a "physical act expressing a spiritual truth." It is saying, in effect, that we are dying to our OLD life and beginning a NEW life.
- The baptism in the Holy Spirit is not a baptism of water; nevertheless, the believer is just as surely immersed—not in water, but in the Holy Spirit. It is a separate experience from salvation and water baptism, and it is available to all believers.

## STUDENT RESOURCES:

## **Map of Jesus' Ministry**

### 1.1 map

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## **SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:**

### **Scripture (S)**

- Read it together! What details stood out to you in this passage that you may not have noticed before?  
What context provided stood out to you as well?

### **Observation (O)**

- What is the significance of water baptism to you?
- Why do you think Jesus wants to baptize us in the Holy Spirit?

### **Application (A)**

- Have you ever been water baptized before? If not, why?
- How can you position yourself to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

### **Prayer (P)**

- Pray to God for courage and boldness to be water baptized (Matthew 28:19)
- Pray to God that you would receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit! (Luke 11:11-13, Ephesians 5:18)
- Pray to God that you would receive the ability to pray in tongues - Heavenly Prayer Language (Acts 2:4)