

The Invitation

Have you ever seen magazine or film articles that are titled something like, “A Day in the Life of” . . . A Day in the Life the Mayor or the President or the Governor or . . . whoever. Well, this lesson from John’s gospel might well be titled “Two Days in the Life of John the Baptist” plus “Two Days in the Life of Jesus.” I asked Beth to read the events of three of the four days.

Day One is all about John, John’s identity and John’s mission. John’s identity?? Not the Messiah. Not Elijah. Not the Prophet. Rather I am the one crying in the wilderness.... I am the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy.”

John’s mission?? “To baptize with water, ‘til the one coming after me shows up I’m not good enough to even untie that man’s shoes.”

Day two. John sees Jesus walking toward him and said, “That’s the One I was talking about. I saw the Spirit resting on that one! I’ve seen that one, and I’m telling you, he is the Son of God!”

Day three. John was hanging out with a couple of friends, students really. One was Andy, Simon’s brother. Jesus was walking along the road so John pointed him out to his students. “That man there, he’s the Lamb of God,” so Andy and his friend began to follow him.

Can’t you just see these two kind of huffing and puffing down the dirt road, trying to catch up? Gotta kinda wonder what they were hoping for.

When Jesus spotted the men following him, he asked them, “what are you looking for?”

“Rabbi, where are you staying?”