



* Prayers Anchored in the
Gospel of John

Thursday Day 12

* Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light, that we, being illumined by the teaching of your apostle and evangelist John, may so walk in the light of your truth, that at length we may attain to the fullness of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

* www.bcponline.org

* **The Collect**
Collecting your thoughts so you can focus
on God.

John 1 (NIV)

¹⁹ Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders^[e] in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

²¹ They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

²² Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

²⁶ "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸ This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

 **Scripture**

This is a time when you will want to contemplate the beauty of God, or to rest in His protection and love for you. Some of this may not come out in words as much as in a posture of adoration and rest.

It is a wonderful thing to be second, if the Beautiful Son of God, who is for you in everything you do, if first. Then He will lift you up every time you bring glory to Him just as Jesus said so many wonderful things about John the Baptist. It becomes a circle – you glorify Jesus and He sends the glory back to you.

Len Thompson

 **Meditation**

* “Who are you.... Who am I?”
People have asked this from the beginning. Thank you Jesus that the answer is always in relation to you. I continue to learn about the place Jesus has in my heart and life. I am a follower of Jesus. I love to attend baptisms as it reminds me of my own commitment to follow!

Ben Reed



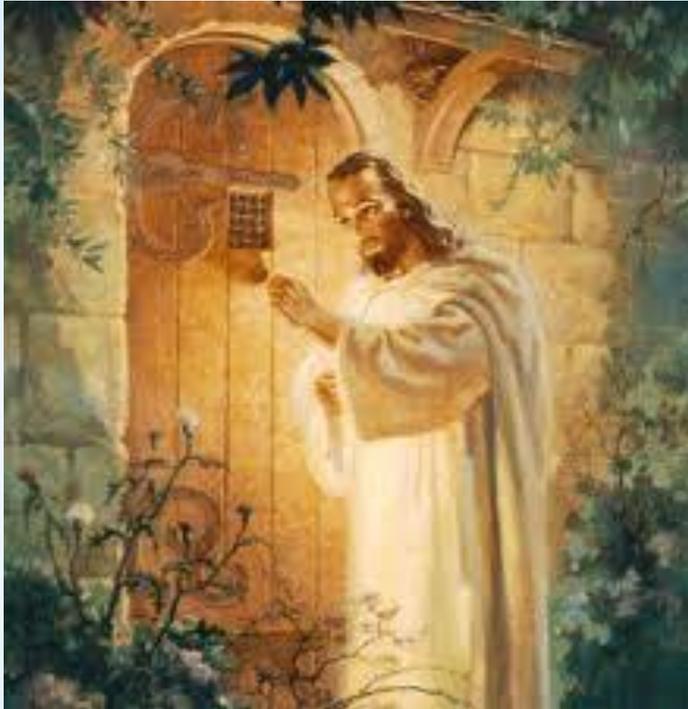
* Meditation

Maybe this prayer by Ben Reed is an appropriate way to pray if one were to become a disciple like John the Baptist:

Thank you Jesus that you have come into the “wilderness” of my heart. You continue to gently call me to yourself. Thank you for being present and so kind in your responses to me. I have known you in the past year and in faith trust you for the year 2015. You are trustworthy.

(B Reed)

 **Response**



- * Rejoice in the memory of your own baptism and choice to follow Christ. Thank HIM for always being there.
- * If you have not been baptized, consider the call of Christ upon your life.

* Prayer

* **Psalm 121:7-8** The LORD will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

* **Blessing**