



**Prayers Anchored in the
Gospel of John
John 1:29-38**

Friday, January 17

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**Online Book of Common Prayer, 1979*

*The Collect

Collecting your thoughts so you can focus
on God.

John 1 (NIV)

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 meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”

³² Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³ And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.”

³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!”

³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus.

 **Scripture**

* This is a time when you will want to think about what God has said to you this week. He has spoken personally and He desires you to pay attention and put some feet to the direction he has given to you.

Look back over your journal or take some time to remember what God has been talking to you about this week.

Can you crystalize his words into a sentence?

* **Meditation**

*The Spirit of God

- * Comforts
- * Rebukes
- * Teaches
- * Guides

Sometimes the Voice of Jesus resonates deeply in one of these areas and sometimes we hear that sweet voice in two, three or even all four of these ways. Write down what Jesus has discussed with you this week.

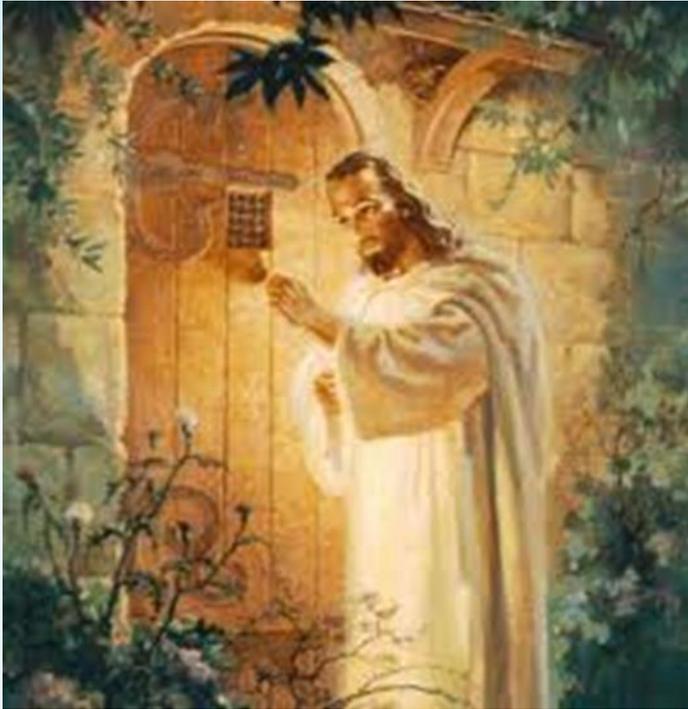
*Meditation

* The Baptist concludes his testimony to Jesus with the central title for Jesus in this Gospel: *I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God* (v. 34). His testimony is a model of Christian witness to Jesus! He is also a model of Christian discipleship in his humility. His admission, *I myself did not know him* (v. 31) is startling since what he had just asserted concerning his examiners (v. 26) he now confesses of himself. It is important to see that such ignorance of Jesus is not bad in itself—everyone begins ignorant of Jesus. Even the fact that the Baptist's cryptic saying went over their heads (vv. 23-25) is not necessarily an indictment of them, as we will see later (for example, 4:1-26). But their ignorance and the Baptist's ignorance are two very different things. They thought they already knew all about the Messiah and other eschatological figures. The Baptist, however, knows his ignorance and is looking for the one to be revealed. In fact, it is for this very reason that he came baptizing (v. 31). So we see his humility in his recognition of his ignorance and in his waiting and watching for God's promised one. IVP Commentary <http://www.biblegateway.com/resources/ivp-nt/John-Baptist-Witnesses-About-Himself>

* Meditation

- * Can you take these thoughts and articulate your response back to God? Is your response one of surrender to His direction or are you finding resistance welling up inside? Scripture is meant to become a script to guide and change our lives and with practice you will become better at hearing the Voice of Jesus speak.
- * For instance, my personal response as I have contemplated this passage this week has been: “I am not that important compared with Jesus. I will point people to Jesus no matter what. That is really what counts.

* **Response**



This is an example of the prayer that comes from my meditation on John's life this week.

“Father, I submit to Jesus. I will point to Him and then I will also decrease when He has other business. It matters not how You decide to do Your work as long as You are glorified.”

Father, I will remember who I am and why I do the things I do.”

*Prayer

John 1: 26-27

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.”

May the blessing of your identity guide you in everything that you do. May it keep you from tripping or falling into any trap that the enemies of Jesus may have for you.

 **Blessing**