



# SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

## Identity: Who Are You? | Part 1

John 1:19-28 | Jan 11, 2026



### OBSERVATION

What Does the Passage Say?  
*Focus on facts, words, and details.*

1. Who sent the priests and Levites to question John the Baptist (v19)? What does that tell us about the seriousness of the investigation?

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2. What specific question is John asked more than once in this passage?

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3. List the identities John clearly denies (v20–21). Why do you think John is so explicit?

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4. What title does John use to describe himself (v23)?

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5. What do you observe about John's tone and posture when responding to the religious leaders?

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6. What role does baptism play in raising questions about John's authority (v24–25)?

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7. How does John redirect attention away from himself (v26–27)?

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8. What do you learn about Jesus from John's description of Him, even before Jesus is named directly?

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### INTERPRETATION

What Does The Passage Mean?  
*Explore meaning, theology, and intent.*

1. Why do you think John's confession of who he is not so central to his identity?

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2. What does John's refusal to accept titles reveal about gospel identity versus cultural identity?

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3. Why is it significant that John identifies himself as a "voice" rather than a person with status or authority?

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4. How does knowing his calling give John courage in the face of religious pressure?

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5. What does this passage teach us about the relationship between identity and humility?

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6. Why do the religious leaders struggle to accept John's ministry, even though it aligns with Scripture?

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7. How does John's clarity about Jesus shape his understanding of himself?

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8. In what ways does this passage challenge modern idea that identity is self-created or self-defined?

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## APPLICATION

How Should The Passage Change the Way We Live?  
*Focus on personal and practical responses.*

1. What titles, roles, or labels do you most often rely on to define yourself?

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2. How would your life change if those titles were taken away? What would remain?

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3. Are there areas where you struggle to admit who you are not—like trying to be the “Messiah” in situations God never intended for you?

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4. What has God clearly called you to do in this season of your life? How does that calling shape your identity?

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5. Where do you feel pressure to seek approval, validation, or acceptance from others?

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6. How can anchoring your identity in Christ bring freedom from comparison and performance?

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7. What practical step can you take this week to live more fully out of your identity in Christ?

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8. How can this group help one another remain grounded in gospel identity rather than cultural labels?

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