John 1:6

(1)

Think about John 1:6-8.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

These verses refer to John the Baptist. John the Baptist and Jesus were close relatives, possibly even cousins.

- 1. Who sent John?
- 2. Why was he sent?

(2)

Think about John 1:15.

John bore witness about him (Jesus), and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'"

1. John the Baptist was born before Jesus was born. Why do you think John said that Jesus was before him?

(3)

Think about John 1:19,20,23.

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ... He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,"

- 1. Who did John the Baptist say he was not?
- 2. What did John the Baptist say his mission was?

(4)

Think about John 1:29.

The next day he (John the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

John the Baptist was sent to the Jews. In the Jew's religion, they would kill animals, like lambs, as a payment for the debt they owed God for disobeying him. The Jews believed the sacrificed lambs cleansed them from their sins, so that they could be at peace with God.

1. John the Baptist called Jesus the Lamb of God. What do you think he meant?

(5)

Think about John 1:32-34.

And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him (Jesus). I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

John the Baptist dunked in water (baptized) people who wanted to change their minds and stop practicing evil deeds.

- 1. How did John the Baptist know that Jesus was the promised one?
- 2. How did John the Baptist baptize people?
- 3. How does Jesus baptize people?
- 4. John the Baptist called Jesus the Son of God. What do you think he meant?