# The Year Of Jesus #6: John the Baptist- A Voice In The Wilderness

February 4, 2022

## Welcome Home! Thanks for joining us today

#### February 5 & 6, 2022

Hallelujah (Your Love is Amazing)

#### Welcome

Counting Every Blessing

Mighty to Save

See a Victory

Lord's Supper Thought

Way Maker

Prayer

Communion

Lesson: The Year of Following Jesus #6 -John the Baptist - A Voice in the Wilderness -

Pastor Ed



#### Good Stuff To Know

Riverside Services Online- If you aren't in town on the weekend, you can still follow our services. We live stream each service on Facebook! You can also watch them anytime through Facebook by navigating over to https://www.facebook.com/EagleRiverside. And you don't need a Facebook account to watch the videos.

Offerings To Riverside - In case you were wondering- We don't pass a collection plate at Riverside. If you'd like to give, there are boxes at the back & envelopes in the information racks for cash donations. If you would like the convenience of giving online, go to www.EagleRiverside.com, click on "Give" and follow the directions. Your donations are an answer to our prayers and are the only means by which Riverside is able to operate.

**FAQs** - Have questions about why we do what we do and why we don't do what we don't do? Chances are you'll find more about it on our FAQs page. You can access the page from our website or text the word "Guest" to 907-312-2662 and you'll receive a link to the page.



DO YOU REALLY NEED ME TO EXPLAIN WHY I'M RETURNING THIS OUTHT?

#### **First Time Visitors**

#### The Lord's Supper (Communion)

This is a time when we "commune" with God and remember Jesus' sacrifice. We also "commune" with one another as His church family. You are welcome to participate with us by going to one of the tables set up with trays- each cup is actually 2 cups (bread in bottom and juice on top) so grab a set of cups and take it back to your place (and don't forget to social distance). You can eat/drink the cracker and juice whenever you feel ready and then throw the cups away on your way out (there are trash cans at all exits). Everyone is welcome to join us if you're interested in remembering Jesus' life & sacrifice with us.

"Welcome To Riverside" brochure available online. www.EagleRiverside.com

#### This Week At Riverside

- ➡ Ignite/Rev Monday, Thrive Thursday
- ⇒ February service project blankets and rescue mission
- → Bible in a year
- **→** Tax statements

#### Need To Talk?...

The church office is not staffed during the week. There is a preschool that uses our building, so Ed, Aniela & Nate work from home. If you would like to contact them directly you can call them or email and set up an appointment.

Ed - 907.306.2823, ednjude@gmail.com Aniela - 907.748.1556, anielawhah@gmail.com Nate - 907.360.4825, nrsandback@gmail.com

Tayler (youth intern) - 907.230.3242, tgongliewski8@yahoo.com

Website: www.EagleRiverside.com

#### Riverside Happenings

**February Service Project** - We are gathering baby blankets for the Alaska Chapter of the National Down Syndrome Congress. New baby blankets, fleeces, and quilts are appreciated. See Becky for more details.

February Service Project (Part 2) - The Gospel Rescue Mission needs canned goos (especially peanut butter and soup), granola bars, high calorie items, hats, gloves, personal hygiene items, women's underwear, and feminine products. See Janet for details.

**Charitable Giving Receipts -** End of year statements are available. Email Aniela for a copy of your statement for taxes.

**Bible Study on YouVersion** - Join us in a bible study starting January 1st. Download the YouVersion bible app, search for EagleRiverside, and then add us as a friend. Search for the plan, "The Bible Recap with Tara Leigh

Ladies Craft Day - Bring your own craft and a dish to share. Saturday, February 12th, 10am-4pm at the church. See Becky 812-449-7004.

Thrive Winter Retreat New Date - The new winter retreat dates for the high schoolers is March 11-13. There's still time to sign up. See Aniela for details.

#### **Upcoming Youth Events**

Monday, February 7th 6:00 - 7:30 Ignite and Rev (our two younger youth groups) will combine

on Monday nights at Riverside for pizza, games, and a devotional.

For 4th - 8th graders. Questions? Like to help?

See Tayler or Aniela.

Thursday, February 10th 6:00 - 8:00 9th - 12th graders. At Riverside. Pizza, games, and a devotional.

Questions? Like to help?

See Liz & Kyle, Tayler, or Aniela

To get updates, text the following to 907.312.2662: "IGNITE" (4th & 5th) "REV" (6th-8th), -or- "THRIVE" (9th-12th).

Everybody's Welcome...

Nobody's Perfect...

Anything's Possible!

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# The Year Of Jesus #6 A Voice In The Wilderness



God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

—John 1:6-9 (NLT)

# John Teaches Us That...

# 1. Humans Meet God In <u>The Wilderness</u>.

• John the Baptizer... was in the wilderness and preached that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. All of Judea, including all the

people of Jerusalem, went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.

-Mark 1:4-5 (NLT)

• The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to tell you, "Let my people go, so they can worship me in the wilderness."

*—Exodus 7:16 (NLT)* 

• Then the whole community of Israel set out from Elim and journeyed into the wilderness of... Mount Sinai.

*—Exodus 16:1 (NLT)* 

### 2. You Can't Save Yourself.

\* People... went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.

—Matthew 3:4-6 (NLT)

• Someone is coming soon who is greater than I am... I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!"

-Mark 1:7-8 (NLT)

• Jesus replied, "No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit... The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

—John 3:5-8 (NLT)

# 3. John's Mission Is My Mission.

• Then who are you? We need an answer for those who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?" John replied in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Clear the way for the Lord's coming!'"

—John 1:22-23 (NLT)

• A voice cries in the wilderness- prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall be leveled, the rough places smoothed. And then we will see the glory of the Lord.

—Isaiah 40:3-5 (GNV)

• Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have, but answer in a gentle way and with respect.

—1 Peter 3:15-16 (NCV)

# Follow Through Step #6:

# Am I "ready" to explain the hope I have in Jesus? What's my next step?

Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have, but answer in a gentle way and with respect.

-1 Peter 3:15-16 (NCV)

# **Riverside Info Texting System**

At Riverside we aren't terribly organized- in fact we're sort of the poster church for "disorganized religion". So we use a "text for information" system where how much info you get is controlled by you. You will never have someone call you without asking for a call. If you can't find the info you need or have more questions or need some help reach out to one of the pastors directly- if we don't answer try texting or emailing us and we may get your message sooner.

Pastor Ed - 907.306.2823, ednjude@gmail.com Aniela (kids/teens ministries) - 907.748.1556, anielawhah@gmail.com Nate (worship ministry)- 907.360.4825 nrsandback@gmail.com Tayler Gongliewski (youth intern) - 907.230.3242 tgongliewski8@yahoo.com For info on any of the following areas simply text the keyword to 907-312-2662. You'll get a text in return with a link to the info you asked for.

Frequently Asked Questions About Riverside- keyword= FAQS
Communion Info- keyword= Communion
New To Riverside? keyword= Guest
Want news and updates periodically? keyword= Loop
Want more info about following Jesus? keyword= Shine
Want info on baptism at Riverside? keyword= Baptism
Youth Programs At Riverside:
Want info on 4-5 grade programs? keyword= Ignite

Want info on 4-5 grade programs? keyword= Ignite
Want info on 6-8 grade programs? keyword= Rev
Want info on high school programs? keyword= Thrive