

# SERMON NOTES

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Unselfish Leadership

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- Profess Jesus
- Proclaim Jesus
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The Believer's Job Description: Point people to Jesus

Our assignment is to allow God to use us in our present stage of live to point family, friends, classmates, work associates, and neighbors toward Jesus.

*It is the simple historical fact that in the thirty years from 67-37 B.C. . . . no fewer than 150,000 men perished in Palestine in revolutionary uprisings. There was no more explosive and inflammable country in the world than Palestine.*

*-William Barkley, quoted in The Jesus I Never Knew, p. 57*

*Luke 1:18-19*

*And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.*

*Luke 1:35-37*

*And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."*

*Luke 1:76-77*

*And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;*

*for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,*

*to give knowledge of salvation to his people*

*in the forgiveness of their sins,*

*Luke 3:1-4*

*In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,*

*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:*

*'Prepare the way of the Lord,*

*make his paths straight.*

*Luke 3:11*

*And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise."*

*Luke 3:14*

*Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."*

*John 1:19-27*

*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." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."*

*(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."*

Unselfish leadership has a grip on the "Why" of our existence.

*John 3:26-30*

*And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. He must increase, but I must decrease."*

*John 3:30*

*He must increase, but I must decrease.*

Unselfish leadership has a grip on the Person of Jesus.

*John 1:29-31*

*The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."*

*[Lamb of God] combines in one descriptive term the concepts of innocence, voluntary sacrifice, substitutionary atonement, effective obedience, and redemptive power like that of the Passover Lamb.*

*-Tenney, EBC, p. 38 from Gangel, John, (Vol. 4, p. 16)*

*Hebrews 9:26*

*But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.*

*1 Corinthians 5:7b*

*For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.*

Four actions points:

1. Advent

The more we know about Jesus  
the more we focus on Him.

The more we focus on Jesus  
the less we focus on ourselves.

2. [Daily Devotions](#)

3. [Living Grounded](#)

4. [Unselfie Coaching Tip](#)

What is your plan for Jesus to increase—to take the center stage—of your life?

Starting today—what will you do to make 2018 an Unselfie Christmas?