

SERIES: J-WALKING
PART ONE, THE BRIDGE
JOHN 1:6-18

INTRODUCTION

Jesus didn't come to extend an old religion. He didn't come to just clarify old truths. He didn't come to just preach sermons and offer wise teachings. From the angel's announcement to Mary that she would give birth to a son whose "kingdom would never end," it was clear: Jesus would do something new for the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What influenced your first impressions of Jesus—church, movies, television, art? How accurate were those first impressions?
2. What, if anything, surprises you about John the Baptist and his role as it relates to Jesus?
3. Read John 1:15–18. Do you tend to view religion as a collection of laws (rules) or as a relationship with God? What shaped your view?
4. When have you experienced "grace of God" in your life. How about "truth" of God?
5. Is it difficult for you to believe that Jesus came to do something new for you? Why or why not?
6. What is one thing you can do to make the most of the Lent season (hint: 40 Day Prayer Challenge) and pursue a closer connection to Jesus? How can this group support and encourage you?

KEEPING IN STEP

Jesus didn't enter the world in order to protect the status quo. He came to overturn it by changing our relationship with God. Jesus was the bridge between the Old and New Covenants. He was born under one to introduce the other. And he did it for the world.