

Sermon Title: Advent: Witnessing to the Light Speaker: Rich Villodas, Lead Pastor Scriptures: John 1:6-8

"There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light."

John 1:6-8 NIV

Sermon Outline:

- 1. We all know how to "point".
- 2. The point of Christianity is to point to God's action in Jesus.
- 3. "God does not will to be God without us." ~ Karl Barth
- 4. "Witnessing means pointing in a specific direction beyond the self and on to another." ~ Karl Barth
- 5. John is the preeminent example of a witness.
- 6. Help others see the presence of God in their midst.
- 7. To live with a heart directed towards Jesus and his mission.
- 8. Help people make sense of their desires.
- 9. Live with hope in the midst of darkness.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday Pastor Rich preaches out of John 1, continuing the Advent season with a discussion about witnessing to the light.

Sermon Questions:

What words or phrases from this scripture passage resonated in you as you read them? Why?

- How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? How so?
- How has your family of origin made it easy or difficult for you to face darkness and difficulty to witness to Jesus in your life?
- What are some practical ways in your life do you "point" to Jesus?
- How do you feel when you hear that God desires to be with you?
- What are some ways do you tend to "point to yourself"? How might God be challenging you about this?
- How might God be inviting you to help others see the presence of God in their midst?
- How is God calling you to live with hope in the midst of darkness?