

Sermon Title: The Advent Series: Pointing to Jesus Speaker: Rich Villodas – Lead Pastor Scriptures: John 1 6-8

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

Sermon Summary:

This Sunday, we celebrate the first week of the Advent season. Advent is a time of preparation and waiting for God's coming in Christ. Each Sunday during Advent, we will examine four biblical characters who help us prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Sermon Questions:

- 1. Name one thing your family of origin pointed you toward. In other words, what did they value or emphasize was most important?
- 2. Read the Scripture passage again. What stands out to you about John the Baptist from John and Pastor Rich's sermon?
- 3. "The point of Christianity is to direct all things to Jesus." Who has been instrumental in pointing you to Jesus? Share specific ways they have encouraged you.
- 4. Pastor Rich shared four reasons for pointing people to Jesus:
 - → To help others see the presence of God in their midst
 - → To live with a heart directed towards Jesus and his mission
 - → Help people make sense of their desires
 - → Live with hope in the midst of the darkness
 - What reason compels you to point other people to Jesus (from the list or one of your own)?
- 5. Pray for intentional space and time to make room for Jesus this Advent season and for wisdom and courage to point others to Jesus this week.