



Year B – 3rd Week of Advent: Messengers Helping the Lost be Found

***{Start with reviewing the previous meeting's challenge or discuss prior to sharing this week's challenge.}**

Let's Begin: Think about how the challenge went for the last session. What went well? What was difficult?

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a brief moment of silence shaking off any and all distractions or difficulties of the day and remembering that God is always with us.

Read: **JN 1:6-8, 19-28** - <https://bible.usccb.org/> - 12/17/2023, 12/13/2026, 12/16/2029

After the Reading Conclude with this prayer:

Dear Lord, John the Baptist was such a humble servant, who always pointed the way to You. We thank You for sharing Your story with us so we can understand You better. We especially thank You for the gift of our spiritual baptism and the nudging's of the Holy Spirit. May we be docile to Your call and willing, eager messengers; just as John the Baptist was. In Your Name, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. Why do you think God used messengers like John the Baptist?

YouTube Video: Advent Lost and Found, Mike Chamberland (10:51) <https://youtu.be/TM7ZDQjI0K0>

Reflection or Discussion Questions:

2. Have you ever been lost...like really lost in a scary way? What was that like?
3. Have there been people in your life that have helped you find your way (in faith or personally)? What did they do? How did they help you?
4. How do you think/feel God has worked through you as an agent helping others to be found?
5. Is there anything regarding helping build God's kingdom that you have been considering doing?
6. Have you ever thought of becoming an ESG leader or Assistant leader? What do you think is needed to be an ESG Leader or Assistant leader?

Session Challenges: {Choose one or both}

- If you are not currently a leader, prayerfully consider if God is calling you to become one. Also, think about a person that you feel would make a great ESG leader and let them know what qualities you see in them.
- Write down three things that you are currently doing to draw closer to Christ and be a messenger. After doing this, spend time with God and ask Him what more He wishes of you.

Closing Prayer: (Leaders: We recommended offering time during the closing prayer for participants to offer personal intentions.)

Holy Spirit, we call on You to fill this space. You can truly do amazing things through us if only we allow You to do so! Just as John the Baptist was a messenger, give us the courage and words we need to invite others into a deeper understanding of who You are and what You have done for us. We ask that You shower us with the virtue of patience needed to plant Your seeds. Through the power of Jesus Christ. Amen.

{Optional additional Readings} Sunday Reading 1: **IS 61:1-2A, 10-11**; Sunday Reading 2: **1 THES 5:16-24**