



Pick N Mix Family Activities
The Third Sunday of Advent 13th December 2020

Read John 1.6-8, 19-28

You may like to use this material as a basis for discussion in your family.

If a person who didn't know you asked "Who are you?" what would you say?

Would you tell them your name? And your age?

Would you describe where you live? And who is in your family?

Would you tell them where you go to school or what job you do?

Would you tell them about your hobbies and interests?



All of these things build up a picture of who you are.

When John the Baptist is asked this question by a group of priests from Jerusalem, he gives a negative answer. They ask him a similar question four times, and it is only after the last question that he gives them some information about himself. But, even then, he gives a quote from Isaiah describing himself as a voice crying aloud in the wilderness.

Why do you think the priests asked him questions?

I think that they were genuinely curious. They had heard about John and what he was saying and doing, and they thought he might be the Messiah. The Jewish people believed that God would send a special person to be their leader and saviour. They had been waiting for the Messiah for a long time but they weren't sure how they would recognise him when he arrived. They were excited that John might be the Messiah.

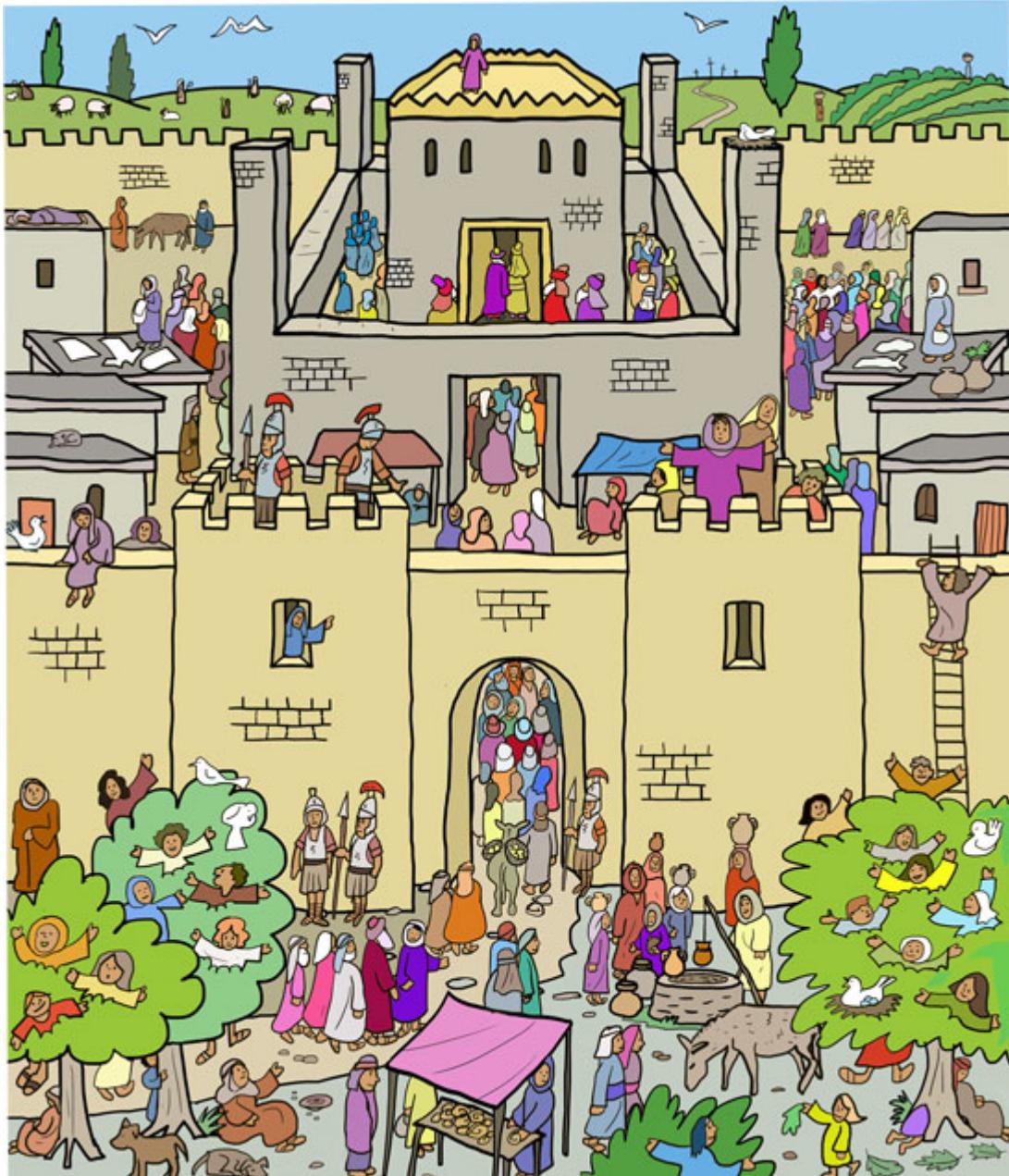
John told them that he was not the Messiah ... then he said "He is already standing among you but you do not know him."

Jesus was the Messiah that the Jews had been waiting for, but they didn't realise it. John wanted the priests to focus on Jesus rather than on him. John knew that he was just a signpost to the Messiah; pointing the way to God.

Jesus is with us nowadays as well, but we don't always realise it. How can we search for Jesus in our lives?

Activities

- Create a booklet out of a few pages of paper. Make it into a "passport" which tells other people about who you are. You could include photos, drawings, and your fingerprints, as well as information about your name, age, family, hobbies etc.



- Look at the picture above. Can you find the Messiah?
If the Messiah could be anyone among us, how should we respond to the people we meet?

Prayer

God of joy, as we celebrate this third Sunday of Advent, we lift our hands in gratitude for all that we have. We turn towards each other – friends, family, neighbours – gladly thanking you for your presence among us and for the gifts that are all around us already. Amen.