



A Voice  
in the Wilderness

December 31, 2017

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God who calls us, your servant John cries out in witness to Christ. May our lives also point to and proclaim the One who has delivered us and claimed us as his own. In the name of that same Jesus, Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

<sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. (John 1:23)



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Who is this Messiah, this long-awaited whom John is proclaiming to anyone who will listen? Who is this one who baptizes, not with water but with the Holy Spirit? Who is it? (Hint: it's not John.)



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

There are so many competing voices in our world. In what ways do celebrities (entertainers, sports figures, politicians, etc.) compete to be heard? How does their contenting affect the rest of us? How do you know whose voice to listen to?

**Wonder:** What was it like to live as a prophet in Jesus' day? If you were a prophet today, what would you eat? What would you wear? How would you make your voice heard?



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God be the loudest voice in your head. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Tune out the voices of the world this week. Limit your exposure to social media, TV, and the internet. Immerse yourself in positivity, and in God's word.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergyStuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergyStuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, John 1:19-34, A Voice in the Wilderness  
Monday, Psalm 32:1-2, The Joy of Forgiveness  
Tuesday, Psalm 32:3-4, The Joy of Forgiveness  
Wednesday, Psalm 32:5, The Joy of Forgiveness  
Thursday, Psalm 32:6-7, The Joy of Forgiveness  
Friday, Psalm 32:8-9, The Joy of Forgiveness  
Saturday, Psalm 32:10-11, The Joy of Forgiveness