

## John the Baptist Prepares the Way

Before the days of printed newspapers, town criers walked through the streets ringing a bell and calling out, "Hear ye, Hear ye!" Then they shouted out the news from every street corner announcing the time of town meetings and other items of interest to the people. Even after printed newspapers came along, you could walk the streets of a city and hear the voice of a newspaper boy crying out, "Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" Then he would shout out the day's headlines, hoping to get the attention of those who were passing by so that they would buy a newspaper.

Today, people get the news in many different ways. Some rely on the newspaper and they read it from cover to cover, some get the news from the Internet, others get the news by listening to the radio. Probably the main way that people get the news today is by watching television. No matter how you get the news, it is important to know what is going on in the world around us.

In today's Bible story we will hear some special news from John the Baptist. He wanted to prepare

the world for Jesus by telling everyone that they need to repent or ask for forgiveness for their sins. Let's check it out, but before we begin we need to say...

**WORSHIP LEADER:** The Lord be with you.

**KIDS:** And with your Spirit.

**WORSHIP LEADER:** This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

**KIDS:** Glory to You, Oh Lord *(show kids how to make the cross on their forehead, lips, & heart)*

Bible Story is a video. (God's Story: John the Baptist. <https://vimeo.com/57088532>)

(Tech Booth: Play video.)

**WORSHIP LEADER:** This is the Gospel of the Lord

**KIDS:** Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.