



# The Forgotten Jesus Podcast Discussion Guide

## Season 4, Episode 14

### The Observation Phase of John's Ministry

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Many claimed to be the Messiah, but how did the religious leaders and the people know to look for the Messiah? Today, we'll look at the observation and examination phase of John's ministry by the religious leaders.

### **Introduction**

**Recap:** Last week on *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast*, we looked at the comparison of where John the Baptist set up his ministry compared to Elijah.

Take a few minutes to discuss this week's episode and what stuck out to everyone.

### **Discussion**

*Have someone read aloud [Acts 5:34-39](#).*

1. Was it surprising to hear about how many others around the time of Jesus claimed to be the Messiah?

*Have someone read aloud [Matthew 3:7-8](#) and [John 1:19](#).*

2. Why was the verification process for a Messiah in place, and why was the way the Pharisees went about it so harshly judged?
3. Why did the Pharisees miss Jesus as Messiah despite their investigative process?

*Have someone read aloud [John 6:14](#).*

4. Why do you think other people recognized Jesus as Messiah when the Pharisees didn't?



## **Application:**

Take some time to apply what you have discussed.

1. How can skepticism be a good thing and a bad thing?
2. How can we be attentive so we do not miss Jesus in our day-to-day lives?

Have someone read aloud [Galatians 2:20](#).

3. How can your life point to Jesus as Messiah? How consistently do you think your life points to Jesus? Why or why not?

For next week: Why did Jesus tell some people to go and tell what had happened to them and not to others?

## **Pray**

Share prayer requests and pray as a group at the end of your conversation.

Here is a prompt:

1. Pray that our lives would be a testimony to the power of the Gospel and point others to Jesus.

## **The Forgotten Jesus Podcast Resources**

Catch up on Seasons 1 - 3 and find out more about *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast*, including show notes, on *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast* [webpage](#).

[Ariel.org](#) - Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Ariel Ministries was created to evangelize and disciple our Jewish brethren and present Bible teaching from a Messianic Jewish perspective. Ariel means “Lion of God,” representing the Messiah Yeshua as the Lion of Judah. It is also an alternate name for Jerusalem (Isaiah 29:1) — the city of peace now waiting for the Prince of Peace to return.

