



So far in the Gospel of John we've studied several scenes involving John the Baptist. As we conclude chapter 3, we have the opportunity to learn from him one final time before the focus shifts solely to Jesus. John the Baptist's humble attitude and actions were the foundation of his ministry and allowed him to have great influence on others as he ultimately pointed people to Jesus. Keep John 3:22-36 in mind and you discuss the following questions with your group.

1. Neal started the sermon by sharing about Joy from the Disney movie *Inside Out*. Joy has a bubbly personality, is persuasive, and longs for everyone to feel joy as their primary emotion. Share about a time when you only sought joy in your life.
2. **Read John 3:22-24.** John doesn't write about how popular John the Baptist was in Israel. **Read Matthew 3:5, Luke 3:16, and Mark 6:20.** Talk about the high level of influence that John the Baptist had and how people would have heard about him.
3. In the midst of this great movement of God, a disagreement arises in the church. **Read John 3:25-26.** In our humanness, we tend to get possessive of things we've created. How can churches do better at seeing the world through spiritual eyes?
4. For the John the Baptist, it was never about his empire but about God's Kingdom. **Read John 3:27-30.** John understood the sovereignty of God in all situations. What has God given you, from Heaven, to invest in His Kingdom?
5. John had an attitude of humility and chose to put Christ above all things. **Read Colossians 3:12, Ephesians 4:2, James 4:10 and 1 Peter 5:5-7.** What do these passages teach us about living a life of humility?
6. The Apostle John teaches us that Jesus was the perfect witness for God. **Read John 3:31-36.** Jesus was this perfect witness because He had seen God, and He testified on God's behalf. How can you increase your witness for Jesus?
7. The Bible is full of people who sought Jesus, not joy. Look at these passages: **Matthew 8:5-13, Mark 5, Mark 10:46-52, and Luke 7:36-50.** Where in your life are you seeking joy over Jesus? How can you change that focus?
8. Close your time in prayer. Pray for the resolve to seek Jesus above all else.