



WEEK SEVEN WHOEVER BELIEVES HAS ETERNAL LIFE

John 3:22-36

DISCUSSION 1

John's followers seemed to be fearful of Jesus's ministry.

1. Read vv. 25-26. According to these verses, why were they fearful of Jesus's ministry?
2. How can we be fearful of others' ministry, or even their success?
3. What can we do to battle against this fear?

DISCUSSION 2

John's response is not only humble, but also exalts the importance of Christ.

1. What wisdom and guidance does John offer to his disciples that results in humility?
2. How can that wisdom protect us from sin? What sins does it protect us from?
3. Notice that John's joy is made complete not by succeeding in his own ministry, but by witnessing the ministry of Jesus. In your group, think of times this is true in your personal relationships and spiritual life.

DISCUSSION 3

Quotation marks were not a part of the original Scripture, so there is disagreement on whether vv. 31-36 came from John the Baptist or John the Apostle. Regardless, the speaker reveals the Son's identity, purpose, and mission.

1. Read vv. 31-34. What do we see about Jesus's identity in these verses? How is this encouraging to you?
2. Read Isaiah 61:1 and Ezekiel 36:26-27. In verse 34 of this week's passage, John says that Jesus gives the Spirit without measure. What does this mean in relation to these texts? What are some characteristics of the kingdom of God?
3. How can we live in a way that aligns with Jesus's mission, his kingdom, and the power of his Spirit?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Why were John the Baptist's followers afraid of Jesus becoming popular? How does John respond?
2. Read vv. 27, 30. How does the truth and wisdom in these verses help us in our walk with God and others?
3. Who does John say Jesus is?
4. Why does Jesus come to give us his Spirit? What must we do to receive it?

APPLICATION

1. John says, "He must increase, but I must decrease." Talk with a friend, family member, or your Small Group about various ways each of you can make John's statement practical in your lives. Hold each other accountable.
2. Either by yourself or with others, pray about ways you can be part of God's mission in Isaiah 61:1. Share one way you will take steps to proclaim the good news in the next few months. Ask someone you trust to hold you accountable. If they desire to grow in this area as well, strive to hold them accountable.