

Discussion Questions

1. How does the bridegroom-and-bride imagery in John 3 fit within the broader context of Scripture? Where else does this imagery appear, and why is it significant?
2. What does this passage show as the ultimate purpose of ministry (or life in general)?
3. Read John 3:30, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Matthew 5:16 and Psalm 115:1. What does it look like to make Jesus greater in our everyday lives?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-7. How does remembering that God is the one who gives the growth change the way we view our success?
5. Read Colossians 1:15-20. What does this passage in conjunction with John 3:31-35 reveal about Jesus' identity, authority and position? How does that impact the way you should live? What needs to change in your life if obedience to his authority in your life is important to you?

For Application

1. Think back to a recent frustration in your life and ask yourself why you were complaining. Then share whether you were surrendered to God's power and sovereignty in that moment.
2. In John 3:29, John says that his joy is now complete. What made it complete? Can you say your life has joy that is complete like John? What keeps you from experiencing that?

3. John desired nothing more than to make Jesus known, not himself. Share what might keep you from doing the same.
4. What area(s) of your life would be most likely to become a source of identity or joy in your life apart from Jesus? What would it look like to intentionally find your joy in Jesus rather than in that area?
5. What is one practical change you could make in your life to put Jesus more clearly into the spotlight to those around you?