



Jesus and John the Baptist

John 3:22-36

MAIN POINT: JESUS CAME FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH.

Jesus and His disciples left Jerusalem, and they went out into the countryside. Jesus spent time with His disciples, and people came to them. Jesus taught the people, and the people were baptized.

Nearby, John the Baptist was baptizing people too. Some of the people who followed John got into an argument.

“Teacher,” they said, “remember the man you talked about, the One who was with you on the other side of the Jordan River? He is baptizing people, and people are starting to follow Him.”

John answered them, “You heard me say that I am not the Messiah. I am the messenger who goes before Him to announce that He is coming.”

John tried to explain by talking about a wedding. John felt like a groom’s friend because he was happy that Jesus, the Messiah, had come. John said, “Jesus must become greater, and I must become less.”

John also said, “The Father loves the Son and has given Him power over everything. Whoever believes in the Son will have eternal life.”

Christ Connection: John the Baptist had told people to get ready for Jesus, the promised Messiah. Now that Jesus was on earth, John’s mission was complete. John the Baptist joyfully stepped aside as Jesus began His earthly ministry.

MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”
John 14:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Who did Jesus say He is? Jesus said He is the Messiah.

BIBLE STORY:

JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST

- Some of John the Baptist’s disciples were confused when people followed Jesus instead of John.
- John explained that Jesus is more important. It was good for people to follow Him instead.
- Jesus came from heaven to earth.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why is it hard to see someone else in the spotlight?
- Why did Jesus deserve the spotlight instead of John?
- How can we show that Jesus is most important in our lives?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Hold a family talent show. Give each member of your family an opportunity in the spotlight and a chance to step aside to let someone else take over. Talk about what it means to let Jesus “take over” our lives.