

“He Must Increase” (Ordination Charge)
Small Group Questions

Read John 1:19-37

1. John the Baptist was very clear on his identity. He knew who he was and who he was not. Try to describe what was in the interior life of John the Baptist. From an outward perspective, he was strange: strange clothes, strange diet, anti-social desert dweller, etc. Is there anything in the text that would reveal John’s peace about his identity; that he was “okay with himself”? Where do we go to find our “true identity”?
2. In vs. 26-28, John talks about 2 distinct baptisms. What are they? What do they mean? If you can, describe your personal experience with both.
3. John viewed himself as “the voice” of one calling out in the wilderness. He was God’s voice box. Though John had a unique calling (forerunner of the Messiah), in what ways does his calling as “the voice” challenge all Christians? In what ways are we also God’s voice box? When is the last time you felt you fulfilled the role of speaking on behalf of God?
4. Read John 3:29. John’s whole life had a singular purpose, to point people (vs. 29) towards his friend (John 3:29). Discuss how John’s friendship with God sustained his evangelistic/prophetic ministry. How does a modern person actually have a friendship with Jesus? How to you?