

## NEXT STEPS:

Where in your life do you need to decrease, so that Jesus might increase? What would that look like? Take some time this week to prayerfully ponder and examine the places of pride in your life.



Jesus and John the Baptist John 3:22-36 Sunday, December 11, 2022 Tim Theule

God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. - James 4:6. In our world that so encourages self-promotion and personal brand-building, the humility of John the Baptist in John 3 is striking and worth our consideration.

The Unusual \_\_\_\_\_\_ of John the Baptist

- John trusts God's \_\_\_\_\_. (3:27)
- John understands his \_\_\_\_\_. (3:28)
- John delights in God's \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus. (3:29)

• John submits to Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_. (3:30)



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Growth Groups are the glue that holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the perfect time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org/groups

## **CONNECT** (ask these questions to check-in with your group)

What are you doing to stir your soul and contemplate the wonder of Christmas?

DISCUSS (use some of these questions to process God's Word together)

- 1. Read John 3:22-36 together. How did you "come under" God's Word and the message this week? What did you learn? What were your takeaways?
- 2. What are ways our world encourages self-promotion and selfexaltation and pride? Does our world encourage and recognize humility?

 How does trusting the sovereignty of God produce humility in our lives? How about knowing our assignment? How about delighting in the God's salvation plan in Jesus? How about submitting to the supremacy of Jesus? Which of these 4 is most challenging for you? 4. John 3 begins with Nicodemus and ends with John the Baptist. This is an intended contrast. How are these men different? How are their conclusions about and response to Jesus reflected in John 3:36?

5. What does it practically look like in our lives to make Jesus BIGGER and ourselves SMALLER? Share some concrete examples of how that might look.

6. DISCUSS THE NEXT STEP: If you're willing, share with one another areas of pride in YOUR life and how you need to DECREASE, so that Jesus might INCREASE.

## PRAY (use these prompts to pray in response to God's Word)

- Use John 3:30 as a springboard for your prayers together.
- Let the extraordinary supremacy of Jesus fuel your praise and prayers.
- Share needs and pray for one another.