

Sermon Outline

The Gospel According to John, Part 7 (John 3:22-36)

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Main Idea: This week Robin continues our series in the Gospel of John. In today's sermon, we look at John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and how he exemplified "selfless service as the primary ingredient of a joyful life."

Sermon Outline:

1. The Scene (3:22-24)
2. The Situation (3:25-26)
3. The Solution (3:27-30)
4. The Surpassing Savior (3:31-36)

Key Text/Quotes:

"He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him." John 3:22-36

Fellowship Starters:

1. Read John 3:22-36 and open in prayer.
2. John the Baptist's disciples took offense when they saw Jesus baptizing people. Why did they do so, and what was John's response?
3. Robin pointed out three things about John the Baptist that protected him from taking offense at Jesus. First, he recognized God as the source of his own ministry. Second, he accepted his unique role as the forerunner, not the Messiah. Third, he understood his subordinate identity in relation to Jesus. How did John's selflessness contribute to the joy he describes in verse 29?
4. The eventual deaths of John the Baptist and Jesus remind us that serving God in this life will not always be pleasant or easy. What did Jesus promise his disciples in John 16:31-33? How does this inform your expectations of the Christian life?
5. Re-read John 3:31-36. As he preached from this passage, Robin described Jesus as the "surpassing Savior." He is the One in whom we find unsearchable and eternal riches. He is our peace. Discuss how reading and believing these amazing truths will encourage, transform, and protect our hearts from earthly emotions and temptations when challenges come into our lives.
6. Close your time in prayer.

