

Part 7: *More of Jesus*

(Part 22 in the continuing series "Jesus by John")

APPETIZER – FIVE QUESTIONS

John 3:36

1. WHAT IS "WRATH"?

The emotion associated with judgment.

2. HOW DOES GOD'S WRATH WORK IN OUR LIVES?

God is continually honouring our ongoing choices to move further away from the light, love, and conviction we already have.

3. HOW DOES JESUS REMOVE GOD'S WRATH?

John 3:14-15 – He responds to our faith by healing us.
2 Corinthians 5:21 – The great exchange.
"Justified" people are no longer guilty.

4. WHAT IS FAITH?

Faith is active trust.

5. WHAT IS THE OPPOSITE OF FAITH?

Disbelief – the active rejection of an offer of which *we are aware*.

John 1:9, 12:32, 16:8
Romans 1:18-21, 24, 26, 28

MAIN COURSE – The Messiness of Ministry

John 3:22-4:2

God intentionally partners with people and that is messy.

Acts 19:1-7

Baptism is important to Jesus.

John 3:22, 4:1-2

It is right to find joy in whatever draws attention to Jesus – including our own end!

John 3:26-30

TAKE OUT – More of Jesus, Less of Me

He must increase, but I must decrease.
~ John the Baptist (John 3:30)



Home Church Questions...

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic]

1. Have you been baptized? What was it like? (Or why not?)

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture]

2. Read **John 3:22-4:2**.
 - a. What verse or idea from the text stands out to you? Why?
 - b. The text says John the Baptist chose the spot where he was baptizing “because there was plenty of water”. What does this tell us about the mode of baptism used? Do you think it matters today? Why/Why not?
 - c. John’s disciples were frustrated that their movement was shrinking while Christ’s was growing. Have you ever been in that position? In your church? Home Church? Club? Business? Something else?
 - d. John speaks of Jesus as the Groom and his followers as the Bride. Brainstorm: What are the parallels, lessons, and encouragements we can draw from this analogy?
 - e. John says Jesus is “above all” (**John 3:31**). What approach would you take in explaining that truth to someone who doesn’t (yet) believe?
 - f. Using **John 3:36** as your base, how would you explain the Gospel? (Break into teams/pairs and take turns. Talk about what approach seemed best.)

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together]

3. Let’s spend a few minutes in meditative prayer. Read **John 3:30** over a few times. Let it sink in. Then close your eyes and ask God to show you areas, situations, or relationships in your life where you are more self-promoting than Jesus-promoting. As each example comes to mind, talk to God about it. Envision what it will be like as you allow your ego to fade and the person of Jesus to become more important to you, and more important than you. After you take 5-10 minutes to meditate and pray privately, feel free to talk together about ways you can support and pray for one another.