

Central Church of Christ
POINTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
John



A PERIOD OF DISRUPTION

The Border of Pride

John 3:22-36 || July 19, 2026

WELCOME

We're Glad You're Here!

We know visiting a church for the first time can feel intimidating.

Our goal is to help you feel at home and **point you to Jesus**.

Here's **what to expect** in our worship today:

We sing acappella (voices only), take the Lord's Supper, offer prayers, and listen to a message from the Bible. **You are welcome to participate with us as** much as you are comfortable.

After worship concludes, we offer **Bible classes for all ages**.

You're welcome to stay and join whichever class fits you best.

central
KIDS

Before the sermon, **children ages 2-7** are invited to a special time called **Wee Worship**, where they can enjoy Bible stories, songs, and age-appropriate activities in a safe, welcoming environment.

July 19: Take up your cross and follow Jesus.

Lesson Text: Mark 8:27-38

For those 8 years old and above, **complete the fill in blanks** in this handout and show the preacher or one of the elders for a special treat or TWO Bible Bucks to spend at Central Park.

SERVICE ORDER

July 19, 2026

Announcements

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord

We Bow Down

Prayer

Highly Exalted

Steve Griggs

Nestor Pozo

David Byerly

David Byerly

Randy Bronson

Ross Jordan

Prepare For Communion

At Calvary

Communion Prayers

Jesus Loves Me

Children's Chat

Scripture Reading - John 3:26-30

None of Self and All of Thee

Sermon

I Am Mine No More

Ministry Moment

Shepherd's Moment

Build Your Kingdom Here

John Cox

Darrell Edwards

Aidan Smith

Aidan & Josh

Tyson Russell

John Cox

Steve Griggs

Andrew Boone

Josh Holloway

Frank Brown

Andrew Boone

GREETERS

Carol Griggs, Rachel Kirkland, Bruce and Luanne Holloway

NURSERY

Leigh Ellen Griggs & Susan Ralston

WEE WORSHIP

Amy & James Harrison, Rachel & Drew Kirkland

SERVE COMMUNION

Chris Akers, Richard Milburn, Scott Shepherd, Jeff Shepherd, Carter Pendley, Mark Stanley, Chris Smith, Danny Smith

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:26-30, NKJV

And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified— behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him! John answered and said, “A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent before Him.’ He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease.

The New King James Version. Thomas Nelson, 1982.



KEY WORDS

John 3:22-36

Bridegroom (nymphios), v. 29. The groom at a wedding, the one the celebration is for. John names Jesus the bridegroom and himself only the friend who stands nearby. The friend's joy is complete when he hears the groom's voice.

Increase (auxanō), v. 30. To grow, expand, or become greater. John uses it of Jesus alone. The word describes a growth that has no ceiling.

Decrease (elattoō), v. 30. To be made lower or smaller. John applies the word to himself, and he says it without regret. Becoming less was not his loss. It was his purpose.

Certified (sphragizō), v. 33. To set a seal, the way a signet ring pressed into wax made a document official. Whoever receives the testimony of Jesus puts a personal seal on this truth: God is true.

Does Not Believe (apeitheō), v. 36. To refuse to be persuaded, to disobey. This is a different word than "believes" earlier in the verse. In John, unbelief is not a lack of information. It is a refusal to obey.

Wrath (orgē), v. 36. God's settled opposition to sin, not a burst of temper. The verse says wrath abides, meaning it remains where it already rests. Only the Son lifts it.

THE BORDER OF PRIDE

John 3:22-36 || July 19, 2026

John the Baptist steps back onto the stage for one last speech that may be the most self-less speech in all the New Testament. Ironically, it is a speech about why he is stepping off the stage. Knowing his assignment as the friend of the Bridegroom, he declares he must decrease while the One with supreme authority must increase.

The Setting || John 3:22-24

- John the Baptist was a _____ preacher (Matt. 3:5-6; Mark 1:4-5; Luke 3:7).
- Then the scenario changes and now there are 2 ministries operating simultaneously - which often creates _____.
- Resulting in _____ driven by pride.

The Struggle || John 3:25-26

- Pride is often revealed when someone else _____.
- Jealously rarely speaks _____.
- Pride _____ and measures success incorrectly.

The Solution || John 3:27-30

- Humility begins by _____ your assignment.
- Everything we have is a _____ from God (3:27)(James 1:17; 1 Cor. 4:7).
 - Pride is displaced when we recognize every blessing, every ability, every opportunity, and every spiritual gift comes from God.
- _____ is found in knowing who you are not - and who you are (3:28).
 - John the Baptist embraces his assignment bringing him _____.
- We should find joy in someone else's _____ (3:29).
 - The friend of the bridegroom (shoshben) has a job:
 - Stand with/attend the bridegroom = _____.
 - Listen for the bridegroom's voice = _____.
 - Be filled with _____ at the success of the bridegroom.

- His _____ is found when the bridegroom is joyful.
- Great joy is found in wanting Jesus to _____ (3:30).
 - The greatest definition of the Christian life of _____.
 - Key word: 'must' - "This word signals what _____ be otherwise - the word marks events and duties fixed by the Lord's will, not by human preference." (Greek Lexicon)
 - The goal: None of self & all of Thee = process of _____ - surrender.
 - Our goal is to get out of the way and make Jesus _____!

The Supremacy || John 3:31-34

- This is 'Why' Jesus must increase - Jesus _____ deserves first place because he is Supreme.
 - Because Jesus came from _____ (3:31).
 - Because Jesus speaks the very words of _____ (3:34a).
 - Because Jesus possesses the _____ without measure/limit (3:34b).

The Son || John 3:35-36

- Jesus is the point of _____ - that often becomes the point of _____.
- Here's what we should do:
 - Since God the Father loves Jesus the Son and has given him all authority - we should do the _____: Love Jesus and give him all authority in our lives (3:35).
 - We are given only _____ options concerning Jesus (3:36):
 - _____ in the Son of God = eternal life now and forever.
 - _____ the Son of God = leaves us facing God's wrath forever.

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

POINTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

John did not write this so that we would know more 'about' Jesus. He wrote it so that we would 'know' Jesus. Jesus knows you and wants you to know Him.

Humility: Jesus - captivated surrender.

Supremacy: God-sent, all supreme.

Son: History's divine hinge.

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

POINTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

Assembly Times

AM Worship

Sundays @ 9:30 AM

Sun Bible Classes

Immediately After Worship

Wed Night Meal

Will start back in September

Wed Bible Classes

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM

Reoccurring Events

Ladies Bible Class

Tuesday @ 10:30 AM

LIFE Groups

Various times & locations
(Visit our website)

Food & Clothing

Tues & Thurs 10 AM-12 PM
(Go to office area)



CENTRAL
CHURCH OF CHRIST

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST II SUN. @9:30am WED. @6:30pm
515 N Tibbs Road Dalton, GA 30720 || 706.278.8051 || ccocdalton.org