

# Dependency embraces the shadows

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## SMALL GROUP NOTES

*Autumn 2014*

### Outline

On Sunday we looked at part 7 of our Divine Yet Dependent series looking at how dependency embraces the shadows. We saw through the passage we read that John the Baptist was a man who was willing to see different seasons of life come his way. As God moved him from a time of obvious fruitfulness and success into a time of moving into the background as Jesus began his ministry. John was able to embrace this well because of three reasons. Firstly because he was a man who recognised all the credit for anything good in his life is because of God. He saw himself as a courier who simply had what was given to him rather than a creator. Secondly John was able to embrace the shadows because he knew his capacity, recognising that his role was to prepare the way not be the way. John knew he was a small cog in God's plans, not the solution. Finally we saw that John could be dependent on God and embrace a season of obscurity because his life was centred on Christ. He knew he wasn't the 'starring role' but rather a 'silent extra' with the joy of knowing and hearing the voice of God.

### Scriptures

John 3:22-30

### Questions for discussion

1. How do you respond to change from a season of sunshine to shadow?
2. What can we do to help ourselves live like John and joyfully give the credit to others?  
How can we grow in seeing ourselves as couriers rather than creators?
3. How can we grow at understanding our capacity and embracing seasons of abiding and seasons of fruitfulness?
4. Where in our lives can we grow at hearing the voice of God and making Jesus central?

### Tags

Jesus, John, Dependence, Glory, Share, Change, Joy