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"Jesus Magnified in Your Life"

Selected Scriptures from the ministry of John the Baptist

3 Areas where you can magnify the greatness of Jesus Christ in your life

1. In Your Witness: Focusing the content of your witness on sharing about the person and work of Jesus Christ (John 1:19-37)

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Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?”

He said: “I *am* ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Make straight the way of the LORD,”’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. And they asked him, saying, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.” These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing. John 1:19-28

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The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

“This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.” And John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.” John 1:29-34

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Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.” John 1:35-37

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Gospel basics:

- Although you are a sinner, God still loves you!
- The penalty for your sin is death (physical and spiritual)
- God sent His Son, Jesus, to die in order to pay the penalty for your sin
- By placing your faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ you can be saved from the judgment your sins deserve and receive eternal life in Him (John 3:16; Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, 10:9-10)

3 Areas where you can magnify the greatness of Jesus Christ in your life

1. In Your Witness: Focusing the content of your witness on sharing about the person and work of Jesus Christ (John 1:19-37)
2. In Your Purpose: Intentionally make much of Jesus Christ in your life and focus less on yourself (John 3:25-31)

Then there arose a dispute between *some* of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. 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.

He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all." John 3:25-31

3 Practical ways you can make much of Jesus and less of yourself:

- In your thinking concentrate on honoring the Lord by setting your mind on the truth of God

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- In your passions aim to please God in whatever you do

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3. In Your Expectations: Align your expectations that you have in your relationship with Jesus Christ with Scripture (Matthew 11:2-6)

“And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?”

Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: *The* blind see and *the* lame walk; *the* lepers are cleansed and *the* deaf hear; *the* dead are raised up and *the* poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.” Matthew 11:2-6

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“Jesus Christ is not valued at all until He is valued above all.”
-St. Augustine.

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