

NOTES: Remain | Less of me, More of Him
April 6-7, 2024 | Compelled Church

⁷ As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began talking about him to the crowds. "What kind of man did you go into the wilderness to see? Was he a weak reed, swayed by every breath of wind? ⁸ Or were you expecting to see a man dressed in expensive clothes? No, people with expensive clothes live in palaces. ⁹ Were you looking for a prophet? Yes, and he is more than a prophet. ¹⁰ John is the man to whom the Scriptures refer when they say,

*'Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
and he will prepare your way before you.'*^[c]

¹¹ "I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he is! (Matthew 11:7-11, NLT)

To be great, according to Jesus, is to be the least.

What made John the Baptist great according to Jesus?

1. John the Baptist knew who he was and who HE wasn't.

²⁶ John told them, "I baptize with^[k] water, but right here in the crowd is someone you do not recognize. ²⁷ Though his ministry follows mine, I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandal." (1 John 1:26, NLT)

John was confident in who Christ was, not himself. (v. 27-29)

²⁹ The next day, John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ He is the one I was talking about when I said, 'A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.' ³¹ I did not recognize him as the Messiah, but I have been baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel." (John 1:27-29, NLT)

2. John the Baptist became less, and Christ became greater.

³⁰ He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less. ³¹ "He has come from above and is greater than anyone else. We are of the earth, and we speak of earthly things, but he has come from heaven and is greater than anyone else."^[i] (John 3:30-31, NLT)

In what ways do we need to become less?

In what ways can we make Christ become more?

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1. What did you glean from last week's message? Look over John 1-3. What was revealed to you? How can you apply these truths to your week?

2. Read Matthew 11:7-10.

What stands out to you as you observe this part of the Bible?

3. Read Matthew 11:11.

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What made John the Baptist great according to Jesus? Who is greater than he is?

4. Pastor Dusty said:

To be great, according to Jesus, is to be the least.

How can we become the "least"? What obstacles prevent this pursuit?

5. John the Baptist knew who he was and who HE wasn't. According to John 1:19-27, how did John the Baptist display his confidence in who he was while also confirming who Jesus was?

6. Read John 3:26-31. What was John's response to his disciples, who were worried that people would stop following him?

7. How can we become less so that Jesus can become greater in our lives?

8. Pastor Dusty talked about how "Less is more," but we sometimes try to cover up who Jesus is in us with our "less." What are some ways you find yourself doing this?

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