

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

True Truth
John 3:22-36
February 27, 2022

John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven." - John 3:27

I. WE RECEIVE ONLY WHAT WE ARE GIVEN

- Jesus leaves Jerusalem after the Passover feast and heads into the Judean wilderness, where his cousin John is baptizing (Vss. 22-26).
- John's disciples are concerned for his standing and reputation. John does not share their concern, and sets the record straight (Vss. 27-30; 1 Cor. 4:7).
- John understands his place in the world, and in God's plan of redemption (Acts 13:36).
- Jesus will increase, John will decrease. John's humility is absolutely unique. We should try to emulate it (James 4:10).

II. TRUE TRUTH

- John (and others) are able to speak truth. But only one from heaven can ultimately speak "true truth." To believe the one sent from heaven is to agree to this truth (John 8:31-36).
- Jesus spoke the very words of God. Those very words are now available to us in only one place—the Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:14-17).
- In Jesus we find the Spirit without measure. In return, Jesus shares with us this very same Spirit (Vs. 34; John 15:26-27).

III. BELIEVING IS OBEYING — OBEYING IS BELIEVING

- Believing in the one from heaven leads to life (John 6:43-48).
- Obeying the one from heaven leads to life (John 3:36).
- Disobeying (via unbelief) leads to wrath. The wrath of God, to speak plainly, is not a pleasant reality (Ex. 32:9-10; Num. 21:4-6; Eph. 2:1-3; 1 Thess. 1:9-10, 5:9).

KNOW: John the Baptist rejoiced in Jesus' growing popularity. He bears witness to the truest truth known to man — Those who believe in Jesus find eternal life. Those who reject him will not see life.

DO: Believe in Jesus. Hold on to that belief to the end.

Suggested Reading:

The Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God by D.A. Carson (LifePoint Library #230 CAR)

All of Grace by C.H. Spurgeon (LifePoint Library #234 SPU)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read John 3:22-36

1. Why are John's disciples concerned about Jesus' growing popularity?
2. What is John's response? Envy? Sorrow? Joy?
3. What was John the Baptist's purpose in life? Did he fulfil that purpose? Are you fulfilling yours?
4. What is the "true truth" that John speaks of here? What is ultimate reality when it comes to life, death, and the future?
5. What application points do you draw from this passage/sermon?