

### **CONSIDERING A HOME GROUP**

We were made for relationships. Home Groups meet do life together and learn how we can follow Jesus together. Check out your options on our website at [www.trinityonline.org](http://www.trinityonline.org).

### **LOOKING BACK**

Have you ever been asked, 'Why follow Jesus?' What is it like for you when people ask about Jesus?

### **LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD**

For this week, we are going to focus on John 3:22-26. Earlier in chapter three, an expert in the Old Testament, Nicodemus, came to see Jesus because He and others saw that Jesus was doing and saying things that indicate that God is with Him. Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be "born again" and "born from above." In this passage, we see John the Baptizer witness to Jesus as the One who is "from above."

Read John 3:22-26 and write a short summary of what happens.

What was the discussion that ensued? (25-30) Why might this have been significant to these people? What is John the Baptizer's witness statement? Why doesn't John see Jesus as a rival?

What follows the discussion is a witness statement to Jesus' identity and purpose. If someone were to ask you, 'Why should I follow Jesus?' what could you say from this passage (31-36)? (Note: In verse 34, the Father "gives the Spirit" to Jesus "without measure." This is unlike the prophets who only received the Spirit as needed for their particular task.)

The author, John the Apostle, is showing why Jesus is superior to any prior or current prophet or witness. How might we compare Jesus to John the Baptizer including their origin and authority?

Jesus

John

From this passage, what is Jesus' mission / purpose for coming?

#### DISCUSS TOGETHER

In "The Gospel of John," Jesus authority is repeatedly questioned. (2:18; 3:2, 26, etc.). Why do we often question someone's authority? What gives someone authority?

Some of John the Baptizer's followers were struggling with showing preference to him over Jesus. In current times, people regularly compare and criticize Christian leaders. How does this passage speak to this problem? How does this practice fragment God's family and hurt His servants? How might a full understanding of Jesus put this to rest?

What can we learn from John the Baptizer's attitude toward those who would compare or criticize?

John the Baptizer began His explanation for "Why he must increase" with this statement: "He who comes from above is above all." Why is this the starting place for answering why we follow Jesus?

#### PLEASE PRAY

- For the unity, love, and direction of the Trinity Church family
- For the people in your worlds without Jesus
- For our global partners sharing the good news throughout the world
- For the Women's Praise and Prayer gathering on Thursday evening
- For the Middle and High School small group leaders