

VOICES

of Woodstock City

Part 2: More You, Less Me

Introduction

Most of us believe that in order to “be all that you can be,” you must focus on and prioritize yourself. But John the Baptist challenges us to see that we realize our fullest potential when we make more of Jesus and less of ourselves.

Discussion Questions

1. In what areas of our lives do commercials or culture call us to maximize our potential, to be “the best”?
2. In what area(s) of life do you feel pressure to be “the best”?
3. Read John 3:22–23. What was John’s unique call or purpose? Do you feel like you have a unique call or purpose in life?
4. Read John 3:25–29. John’s disciples were concerned that Jesus was taking away his disciples and becoming more popular than John. What was John’s response to his disciples? What is your typical response to competition or someone who seems to be excelling over you?
5. Chris challenged us to consider that in order for us to realize our full potential, we need to adjust the “dials;” tune our lives to seek Jesus’s interests above our own. Which dials in your life need tuning? More celebration and less competition? Less action and more reflection?
6. If you are a believer, the two dials on the top of your “life board” (remember Chris’s example of the sound board) are: God and Me. Can you think of habits or practical things you can do to turn the dial up on God? What would help you turn the dial down on yourself?
7. Chris concludes that John the Baptist became someone great and accomplished something greater because he spent his life making Jesus great. Do you have a feeling of restlessness in your life right now? Do you believe God is calling you to something new or different that could make Jesus’s name greater?

Changing Your Mind

John answered, “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.’ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. He must increase, but I must decrease.”