



November 13, 2016
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 Greater and Lesser

1. John the Baptist was described as the "Pointer", the witness to Jesus Christ. He was clear about who he was and who he was not. Go back over John 3:22–36 and see if you can find examples of how he pointed away from himself and to Jesus.

2. The Jews who engaged John's disciples over Jesus's growing ministry were jealous and resentful (3:25–26). In what ways can we become this way over other churches or other ministries?
 Do certain examples come to mind?
 Why do we become this way?

3. What happens to us as individuals, as a church, and as Christians in America (especially post-election) when we lose sight of Jesus Christ and forget to point to him alone as Messiah?

4. The problem of a "messiah complex" was briefly discussed. What is it? Do you struggle with it? How can John's ministry of pointing to Jesus as Messiah bring you joy and freedom from this?



Scripture passage for November 20

Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—² although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. ³ So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

⁴ Now he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

¹¹ "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

John 4:1–16

