He Must Increase, But I Must Decrease, Part I

John 3:22-30

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Matthew 26:18

Luke 16:16

John 1:17

I. Remember the source of our ministry. (v. 22-27)

“came…into the land of Judaea…baptizing” (John 4:1-2; Matthew 4:11-12, 17; 14:3-12; 28:18-20; Mark 1:12-14; 6:17-29; Luke 3:19-20; 4:14; Romans 6:3-4)

“there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying.” (Mark 7:1-23; John 4:1-3)

“the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.” (Numbers 11:26-30; 12:1+; 16:1+; John 3:25-30; Luke 9:46-50; Philippians 15-18)

“A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.” (Psalm 75:6-7; 1 Samuel 2:6-7; 2 Corinthians 10:12; 1 Corinthians 4:7; 12:4-12; 15:10; Romans 1:5; Ephesians 3:7; James 1:17)

II. Recognize the purpose of our ministry. (v. 28-30)

“I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before Him.” (John 1:19-23; Luke 3:3-6, 15-17; Matthew 3:3-12; Mark 1:3-8; Luke 1:17, 76; Acts 19:4; 1 Corinthians 1:12-13; 3:4-9)

“friend of the bridegroom” (Hosea 2:16-20; Isaiah 54:5-6; 62:4-5; Jeremiah 2:2; 3:20; 31:32; Ezekiel 16:8; Matthew 3:11; 16:18; Luke 1:44; Ephesians 2:11-22; Ephesians 5:22-33; 2 Corinthians 11:1-3; James 3:13-18; 4:1-2; 1 Peter 1:10-11; Revelation 19:7-10; 21:9)

“He must increase, but I must decrease.” (John 3:7, 14, 30; Matthew 11:11)