

Influence and Popularity of John the Baptist

A stylized, monochromatic illustration of a landscape. The scene features a body of water in the foreground, with several large, dark rocks or boulders scattered across the water and the shore. In the background, there are rolling hills or mountains under a light sky. The overall style is reminiscent of a woodcut or a simple line drawing with flat areas of color.

Family Discussion

After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized. Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were constantly coming to be baptized. ... They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan--the one you testified about--well, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him." ... You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Christ but am sent ahead of him.' ... He must become greater; I must become less.



Selected verses from John 3:23 - 30

Discuss

- Have you ever had a friend's influence, popularity, or recognition surpass yours? How did you respond?
- How was John the Baptist's influence and popularity both decreasing and increasing at the same time?
- His disciples were upset that Jesus was gaining popularity, how did John respond?
- How can Jesus become greater in our lives?
- To whom can you be "sent ahead" to make Jesus known?



Pray

- Thank the Lord for those who made Jesus known to you.
- Pray for people, both close and far away, who serve the Lord by making Jesus known. Pray for their wisdom, safety, and courage.
- Pray for people you know who need to have Jesus made known to them.
- Ask God to help you be a witness and word and deed.

