

One Trick Pony: The Humility of John the Baptist

Text: **John 1:19-28**

Overview

This passage explores the testimony of John the Baptist when questioned by men sent by the Pharisees. John explains that he has one purpose--he is the voice crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord." He does not take glory for himself, but in humility points to the One to whom all the glory and honor is due: Jesus Christ.

Scripture to Consider

Isaiah 40:3-5; 1 Peter 2:9-10;

Before You Meet

Read John 1:19-28.

Consider your purpose and the kind of humility with which you live.

Read through the discussion questions below.

Discussion Questions

John the Baptist knew God's purpose for him and lived like nothing else mattered. How can you go on to do the same?

Humility says, "I know what God has said about me and I know that I am designed to point to One who is greater than me." How can you point others to that One, Jesus Christ?

Whether you think highly of yourself or if you think poorly of yourself, in both instances you're just thinking about yourself. How does this reveal a false kind of humility?

The source of humility is our recognition of God's purposes for us and then taking delight in living according to those purposes. How can you do this in your everyday life at work and at home?

One Trick Pony: The Humility of John the Baptist

Text: **John 1:19-28**

I. Intro

- Men were sent by the Pharisees to question John the Baptist.
- Who are you?
- John the Baptist knew God's purpose for him and lived like nothing else mattered.

II. John the Baptist gives an accurate account of himself.

- John is not:
 - The Messiah
 - Elijah (Malachi 4:5)
 - The great prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-18)
- John is the voice crying in the wilderness (Isaiah 40:3)
 - Making known the Christ is coming.
 - Doing what God has set him apart to do.

III. John the Baptist points away from himself and toward Jesus.

- Why is John baptizing?
 - His baptism is with water.
 - He believes what he's doing is inferior to the coming Christ and what he will accomplish.
- Humility says, "I know what God has said about me and I know that I am designed to point to One who is greater than me."

IV. Conclusion

- We are called to be people that are continually pointing to Jesus.
 - Whether you think highly of yourself or if you think poorly of yourself, in both instances you're just thinking about yourself.
 - The role of the Christian is to be Christ's ambassador here on earth.
- The source of humility is our recognition of God's purposes for us and then taking delight in living according to those purposes.