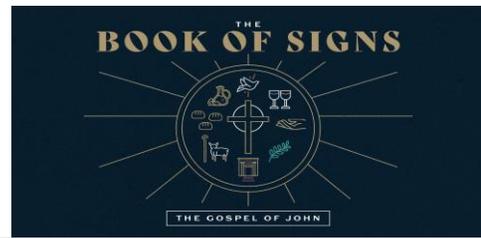


# Groups Sermon Based Questions

## John: The Book of Signs

February 8/9, 2024



Watch	Introduction
<p data-bbox="396 327 609 359"><a href="#">He Must Increase</a></p> <p data-bbox="253 401 747 470">The sermon is up on the spac.ca website Monday of each week.</p>	<p data-bbox="824 327 1409 499">John the Baptist the Baptists followers express concern over popularity and influence shifting toward Jesus. And once again, John points everyone's eyes toward Jesus acknowledging it is and has always been all about Jesus.</p>

### Engage

Scripture: John 3:22-36; Acts 19:1-7

#### Optional Icebreaker Question

- 1) Like the space pen, what is something you've overcomplicated in life that required a simple solution? (Don't use faith examples as you'll get to jump into that in Question 2)

#### Study

**Context:** Wedged between two well-known Passages in the Gospel of John, we come back to a familiar place, where John the Baptist is still pointing his followers toward Jesus. Jesus and John and their followers are baptizing people in proximity, and John the Baptists followers grow in concern as their teachers influence and popularity is shifting to the Messiah. John, in humility, reminds them of who to follow. Here we see John express similar words that Jesus expressed to Nicodemus... that through those who believe in the Son, they will receive eternal life, and those who reject Him remain under God's wrath. In this scene, John reminds us of Who must increase in our lives, and who must decrease.

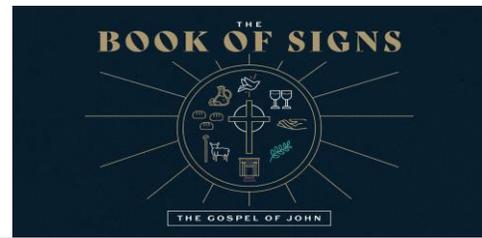
#### Read John 3:22-36

1. Based on the reading, context and what you've heard through the Message on the weekend, what sticks out? Why? What initial thoughts, questions or curiosities do you have?
2. John's disciples described Jesus as Messiah and still confused or over complicated matters of who to follow and Messiahship. Where have we overcomplicated Jesus and following Him? How have you experienced Jesus simplify this for you?
3. John's disciples are concerned about Jesus' growing popularity (v. 25-26). Why do you think they felt this way, and how does this reflect our human tendencies today?
4. Do you think there is a correlation between those who have a posture of 'having the focus on me' (popularity/control/influence) and overcomplicating the simple Gospel? Why?
5. Was there a time where you magnified a author/pastor/podcast/theologian/influencer/etc. over Jesus? What differences do you notice between the two when applied in your discipleship journey with Jesus?

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6. How does the 'best man to the groom' analogy help us understand John's attitude toward Jesus' growing influence?
7. Who or in what places have you experiencing a 'He must Increase' posture? Where are you witnessing this in our church, in your group, and in your life?
8. How do Johns words in v.31-36 both encourage and impact how we understand John's words in v.30?
9. From your discussion and reading, what is one encouragement, challenge or application Jesus has placed on your heart, that you can share with others in the group?

#### Reflection and Prayer

This week, continue to ask Jesus where He is inviting you to less so that He can be more magnified...

### Prayer and Care

Take note of a prayer request for each member in your group.

You can request prayer any time at [spac.ca/prayerrequest](http://spac.ca/prayerrequest)

We have a Care Ministry and pastoral team at Sherwood Park Alliance to walk alongside people through life's challenges. Should anyone in your group experience a significant illness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, etc. and they've given you permission to share, please contact the church office 780-467-8404.

Pastor on call (after hours): 780-467-8404 and follow prompts.