**Discussion Questions, John 3:22-36**

1. Verse 22 says, “after these things”. After what things? *What Jesus discussed with Nicodemus, but also the state of the world, men sin and do not live in the light as we as Christians should be doing.*
2. Was Jesus actually baptizing? *No, but his disciples were.*
3. What did the baptism of John and the early baptisms of Jesus’ ministry mean? *That God was opening a way for both Jews and Gentiles to become followers of God through Jesus*
4. Why was John baptizing in that area? What makes this an interesting commentary on his ministry? *John was there as there was much water and people were constantly coming. He was going before Jesus to prepare the way.*
5. Why was John thrown into prison? *He had condemned Herold over his divorce of his wife and marrying the divorced wife of his half brother*

1. Who is the one being referred to in verse 26? *They are referring to Jesus*
2. What event is referred to in verse 26? *The man John had testified about was baptizing and everyone was going to him*
3. What does verse 27 mean? *God is the one who gives gifts and abilities, of his grace*
4. What is impressive about John’s attitude concerning Jesus’ rising popularity? *That he knew what was happening with Jesus and was not upset at all*
5. How might we respond to this kind of thing? *Probably quite the opposite, we would want credit for what we have done.*
6. In verse 29 who are the “bride”, “bridegroom”, and “friend of the bridegroom”? *The Church is the bride, Jesus the bridegroom and John it the friend*
7. How does verse 30 fit in with John’s ministry? *John’s ministry was coming to an end and Jesus was just beginning*
8. Explain the basic points of John’s “discourse” on Jesus. *He is trying to point everyone towards Christ and his salvation, but not everyone is listening*
9. What does it mean that “no one” received his testimony? *Those who should have seen Jesus as the Messiah looked away and did not believe in him, those who did not look away became certain that God is always truthful*
10. What relationship is clearly seen in those verses? *Father loving his children*
11. What one decision will determine our eternal destiny? *Believing in Jesus as our one and only savior knowing that God is always faithful*
12. What can we learn from these verses? *How we can have great Joy in God*
13. What do we learn about ministry?  *A way we can teach, with Jesus being the focus, not ourselves*
14. What do we learn about Jesus? *That he is Son of God and speaks of what God has told him*
15. What can we learn from John’s example? *How God rewards believers and punishes those who don’t believe, how joyful we should be as children of God.*