



A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of July 19, 2026

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

John 3:22-30 *Increasing and Decreasing*

²² After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. ²³ John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴ (for John had not yet been put in prison).

²⁵ Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶ And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." ²⁷ John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease."

- How did you your parents or teachers lead you in resolving arguments when you were younger?
- Describe the debate that occurred at the river. Who was involved? What was the topic? What else may have contributed to this conflict? (22-26)
- How does John the Baptist respond? What is his point as he tells the story about the bride and the bridegroom? (27-30)
- What does it look like to decrease so that Christ might increase? What things make this kind of character difficult? Can you share an example of someone who "decreased" for the glory of Christ?
- Where does the power and courage to decrease come from? How exactly does that work?
- Where do you need grace to decrease for Christ's sake in this season of your life?
- This past Sunday, WEPC enjoyed a special focus on the youth of our church. Consider reaching out to one our high-school or middle school members to encourage them with a way you see the Lord at work. Take time to pray for our youth, their families, and for all who minister alongside them.
- Pray together in light of this week's passage.