

# Gospel of John 3:22 – 36

New American Standard Version

1 After these things Jesus and His disciples came into  
2 the land of Judea, and there He was spending time  
3 with them and baptizing. John also was baptizing in  
4 Aenon near Salim, because there was much water  
5 there; and *people* were coming and were being  
6 baptized— for John had not yet been thrown into  
7 prison. Therefore there arose a discussion on the  
8 part of John’s disciples with a Jew about purification.  
9 And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, He  
10 who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you  
11 have testified, behold, He is baptizing and all are  
12 coming to Him.” John answered and said, “A man can  
13 receive nothing unless it has been given him from  
14 heaven. You yourselves are my witnesses that I said,  
15 ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent ahead of  
16 Him.’ He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the  
17 friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him,  
18 rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice.  
19 So this joy of mine has been made full. He must  
20 increase, but I must decrease. He who comes from  
21 above is above all, he who is of the earth is from the  
22 earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from  
23 heaven is above all. What He has seen and heard, of  
24 that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony.  
25 He who has received His testimony has set his seal to  
26 *this*, that God is true. For He whom God has sent  
27 speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit  
28 without measure. The Father loves the Son and has  
29 given all things into His hand. He who believes in the  
30 Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the  
31 Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on  
32 him.”

## **Observation – What does it say?**

***Read through the passage looking for the “Who? What? Where? When?” that John is recording. As you read through the passage, what questions come to your mind? Don’t start trying to answer your questions until you have done a thorough job of observation.***

## **Interpretation – What does it mean?**

***What information that you observed in the passage helps to answer the questions you have about the passage? What questions still remain?***

## **Application – What does it mean for me?**

***What in this passage reminds you of areas of your own life where the Holy Spirit might want to work? How might the first-century details of this passage affect your twenty-first-century life?***

***Assume you are leading the group discussion on Sunday. What questions (not what lecture!) would you use to help others discover what you are seeing? How will you help them through the steps of Observation, Interpretation, and Application?***

*Questions for further thinking:*