“He Must Increase”  
January 3, 2021

John 3:22-30

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.”

1. Pray for the Spirit of God to disciple us until we no longer act on or trust any selfish ambition or impulse.

2. Identify and eliminate any idolatrous love for lesser things and replace with an increased love for God as our greatest treasure.

3. Give up any spirit of self-reliance and increase our trust in the providence and provision of God.

4. Minimize our passion for our own reputation and increase or passion for the reputation of Jesus Christ.

5. Diminish our considerations for the temporal and increase our awareness of the eternal.