

J O H N

BELIEVE

"Fan of a Teacher or Follower of the Truth?"

INTRO: *Should there ever be competition between ministries? In today's study, a controversy arose over the baptisms performed by John and Jesus. The controversy asked the important question that forms our study's title.*

- I. **God uses _____ to point people to Jesus (3:22-24).** *John the Baptist's ministry pointed people to God's Messiah. Today's Bible teachers do the same.*

- II. **People may become _____ of teachers instead of _____ of Jesus, (3:25-30).** *Teachers have influence. But those who sit under their instruction must resist the temptation to exalt the teacher above the One to whom their teaching points.*

- III. **Be a _____ of Jesus, not simply a _____ of the teacher(s) who points you to Him (3:31-36).** *Jesus eclipses all human wisdom and authority. This was apparently John's commentary on the controversy, similar to 3:16-21.*
 - A. **Only Jesus _____ for God (3:31-34).** *Without divine revelation, Mankind would not know truth. Teachers are important (Eph. 4:11) but they are commentary on His words.*

 - B. **Only Jesus _____ for God (3:35-36).** *Without Jesus, eternal life would be unattainable and Mankind would remain under judgment.*