

TO HELP US STUDY

1. When Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, what did Jesus begin to do? _____

2. Who was baptizing people down the river from Jesus? _____
3. Who began an argument with John's disciples? _____
4. What did the disciples of John the Baptist come to tell him? _____

5. According to John the Baptist, where did Jesus get the authority to teach and baptize people? _____

6. John told them, "I am not the _____, but am sent ahead of him."
7. What did John talk about to illustrate his attitude toward Jesus? _____

8. Then John said, "He must become _____; I must become _____."
9. What did he mean by this statement? _____

10. What lesson can we learn from John's attitude? _____

TO HELP US REMEMBER: *Young ones*—John 3:30, "He must become greater; I must become less."
Older ones—John 3:35-36

TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT

Draw a rough map of Palestine on the back of this page and mark the places where John and Jesus were baptizing. Then get a commentary on John's Gospel and find out the meaning of John's illustration in 3:29. Briefly explain it in a paragraph on the bottom back of this sheet.

TIPS FOR TEACHING PARENTS

We all encounter the same problem in home Bible study. Whether we are teaching adults or children, we find it hard to hold high interest in the studies week after week. Many tips may be offered to assist in maintaining interest, but we mention just a couple now.

1) Always have a practical tie-in with the kid's lives. Even little children are wise enough to be bored by something that is worthless to them. Most of the time it is not hard to find a valid link between a story and a child's life. What youngster, for example has never been jealous of a brother or sister? Sometimes the problem is acute. It can mar their happiness into adult years unless they learn to cope with it. If a story such as this one gives our children a chance to discuss such a real-life problem and gain some insight into it, our study time will surely be worthwhile, and the child will know it. Let's be sure our children learn not just about John but about themselves as well.

2) Many good videos of key Bible stories are available. Quite possibly your church or one nearby will have videos you can borrow occasionally to enhance your study of specific Bible stories. Younger kids always love them.

FOR ADULT STUDY: Gen 37:4; Num 11:27-28; 1 Sam 18:8; Ecc 4:4; SofS 8:6; Lk 15:28; 22:24; 1 Cor 3:3; 2 Cor 12:20; Rom 13:13; Jas 3:16.