

What Matters Most

John the Baptist is an intriguing character. Jesus said of him, “Among those born of women, there is no one greater than John” (Luke 7:28). What a recommendation!

As his ministry seemed to be diminishing, John said of himself, “A man can receive only what is given him from heaven. You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Christ but am sent ahead of him.’ He must become greater; I must become less” (John 3:27-28, 30). That statement alone says a lot about John to me.

But listen to what the common people said of him. To me, this is the highest compliment paid to him: “Though John never performed a miraculous sign, all that he said about Jesus was true” (John 10:41, adapted). The account goes on to add, “And in that place many believed in Jesus” (John 10:42).

Now that’s a recommendation! Wouldn’t you like to have people remember you that way after you’re gone?

Most of us dream of doing great things. But whether we accomplish them or not, often we eventually realize that our dreams aren’t as grand and noble as they once seemed. We come to see them as small and self-centered. Often our dreams matter less than we thought.

But our personal testimony about Jesus Christ matters! How we present Him through our lives and through our words matters a lot! It matters to the people we care about. It matters to many around us we’re not even aware of. It matters to people we’ll never know, at least not in this life. It matters now, and it will matter forever, in realms we can’t imagine. Your testimony about Christ matters!

Throughout the Old and New Testaments, God calls people to be His witnesses--to tell others what they personally know and have experienced about God. That’s our task. It’s our divine calling.

But I like the way Paul phrases it. In Ephesians 1, he says that God adopted us sinners as His children and redeemed us and filled with His Spirit so that we might be for “the praise of His glorious grace” (Ephesians 1:6, 12, 14). In other words, our whole purpose, both in this world and beyond it, is to show others just how good and how loving God really is. That is the Church’s purpose. That is your purpose.

Your level of talent doesn’t matter so much. Your life testimony matters a lot. Your glory doesn’t matter. God’s glory means everything. Human beings are changed forever as they see how good God is and learn to trust Him.

Consider making this your personal challenge and your whole reason for being: to find your own unique way of showing other people that God is love.

Hymn: [Kindle a Flame](#)

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