

When Being 2nd Place is a Good Thing

John 3:25-36

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- In some areas of life, there seems to be no glory in being second place.
- We all like to be the top dog.
- We don't like playing second fiddle to anyone.
- Besides, who remembers the people who finish 2nd place.
- We don't hold up two fingers with pride, right?

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- There is glory in 2nd place when we.....

LOVE THE ONE IN 1st PLACE

- Many of us have children. How many of us want to see our children succeed even beyond our successes?
- How many of us have sacrificed to that end?
- Why? Because of love!

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- John the Baptist loved the Lord and his kingdom.
- We know this because he labored for Christ's success.
- We sing, "I love thy kingdom Lord"
- Do we appreciate that this means loving Christ since the kingdom is his church, his body?

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RECOGNIZE THE JOY OF BEING A SERVANT

- “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”
(Acts 20:35)
- This means understanding our role.

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- Our role includes:
 - Having the right attitude about it.
 - Matt. 3:11; John 3:28-31 (Even John call it joy).
 - Working hard to build up Christ. (Mark 1:1-8, Luke 1:13-17)
 - Every boxer has a sparring partner.
 - Every football team has a scout team.

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- There is glory in 2nd place when we.....

BELIEVE FERVENTLY IN THE CAUSE

- John the Baptist believed in the kingdom of God.
 - It's appointed time. (At hand- Matt. 3:2)
 - It's king. (The Lord Jesus from above John 3:31)
 - It's entry stipulations. (Matt. 3:6-8; John 3:36)