Date: 12/5/2015

Title: Jesus is the Greatest

Theme: The greatest thing we can do is tell others about Jesus

Object: Bat and ball; Search a word on Jesus is the Greatest.

Text: John 1:26-27 (NIV) “I baptize with water,” John replied, “but among you stands one you do not know. He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”

Here John the Baptist is talking about Jesus and he says that Jesus is so great that John is not good enough to even try to untie Jesus’ sandals.

Did you ever wonder how it would feel to be the greatest?

To do something that everybody loved: like be a great singer, or a great piano player or a great athlete?

How would it feel to be like David Ortiz and hit a home run that wins the World Series, and all of Fenway Park is going wild?

I heard the story of a boy who took his bat and ball out to his back yard. He yelled out at the top of his lungs, “I am the greatest hitter in the world.” He threw the ball up in the air, swung the bat, and missed. “Strike One” he yelled. [Repeat two more times for strikes two and “Strike three, you’re out!”] He thought for a moment and then yelled out at the top of his voice, “I’m the greatest ***pitcher*** in the world!”

Everybody would like to be great at something.

[Remembrances of Mohammed Ali. “I am the greatest”]

At one time or another we have all dreamed of being the greatest at something.

But the Bible tells us about John the Baptist: he knew that Jesus was the greatest.

John was very popular in his day and people would travel for miles to see him and to hear him speak.

He was so popular that many people began to think that he might be the Savior that had been promised -- or that he might be Elijah or one of the great prophets who had come back from the dead.

John assured people that he was not the Christ, or even one of the great prophets.

He told them that he was just a man who had come to tell them about One who was coming who truly was the greatest.

He said, "The One who is coming -- why, I'm not even worthy to untie his sandals."

Of course, the one he was talking about was Jesus.

Most of us will probably never be known as "the greatest anything."

But we can, like John, tell others about the One who is The Greatest.

We can tell them about Jesus.

When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him to be baptized, John pointed to Jesus and cried out: “Behold the Lamb of God which takes away the sins of the world.”

That’s one of the things that makes Jesus the greatest.

He died for our sins so that we can be forgiven.

There is no one else who can take away the sins of the world.

Like John, we can tell others that Jesus is the greatest because He can save them from their sins.

I can't think of anything that we could do that would be greater than that!

How many think Jesus is the greatest? Let’s tell our friends the good news!