



Week 7 : March 10-16 : John 7:25-52

Introduction

The Jews had many historic traditions and preconceived ideas that got in their way of seeing Jesus as the Messiah. Each person, then and now, is faced with answering the question of who Jesus is. Is he a liar, a lunatic, or our Lord? The way that each person answers this question will impact their life forever.

Open (Get comfortable talking with each other)

- 1) What did you believe as a child that as you matured you realized that it was not true?
- 2) What was something from Sunday's sermon that stuck with you?

Discover (Open the Bible to see how truth meets life.)

- 1) What things were the people muttering about Jesus? Read 7:25-32. What did the Pharisees do in response to the muttering of the people?
- 2) What was Jesus referring to when he talked about going to a place where they could not come? Read John 7:33-34. (Need more information? Read John 17:16-24.) How do the Jews' respond to Jesus' statement about going to this place?
- 3) Jesus' identity is revealed in multiple ways. Read John 1:29-30; 2:19-22; 3:11-19; 6:56-57. Which of these descriptions of Jesus makes more sense to you now? How do they help someone know Jesus on a deeper level?
- 4) Jesus makes the offer of water to those who thirst, but instead of receiving the offer, how do the people respond? Read John 7:43-44. The Jews were trying to work through their misconceptions of Jesus. What misconceptions do people today have about Jesus that lead them away from accepting him? What can you do to help people have a proper understanding of who Jesus is and what they should do with him?
- 5) Who comes to the defense of the law to make sure that Jesus gets a fair hearing? Read John 7:50-51. We met Nicodemus early in this Gospel. Read John 3:1-10. Nicodemus did not go along with his peers. How comfortable are you to stand up for what you believe in (especially who you believe in - Jesus), even when it means going against your peers?

Close (Look at the person in the mirror and decide to make a change.)

- 1) Liar? Lunatic? Lord? Jesus asked his disciples, "*Who do people say the Son of Man is?*" They gave a great list – John the Baptist; Elijah; Jeremiah; or one of the prophets. Jesus asked them "*But what about you? Who do you say I am?*" How do you answer this question – "*Who do you say I am (Jesus is)?*"
- 2) We live in a world that is thirsty for the things that Jesus offers. Things like grace, peace, purpose, and meaning are sought after at all costs by people all around us. Jesus is inviting all people to come and drink regardless of who they are or what they have done in the past. Make a commitment to extend Jesus' offer to come and drink to thirsty people in your world.
- 3) Read the Bible as a daily rhythm of life is great practice for healthy discipleship.

Day 1 – Isaiah 55:1a, 6-7

Day 2 – John 4:10-14

Day 3 – Revelation 22:12-17

Day 4 – Acts 2:1-12

Day 5 – Acts 2:17-21