



The Gospel of John

Session Sixteen: Jesus and the Religious Leaders

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

JESUS AND THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

JOHN 7:45-53

1. _____ IS _____—WHEN TRUTH IS ENCOUNTERED, NOT SILENCED

John 7:45-46

2. _____ IS _____—WHEN PRIDE DISMISSES WHAT IT CANNOT CONTROL

John 7:47-49

3. FROM _____ TO _____—WHEN LACK OF FAITH THREATENS COMMUNITY

John 7:50-53

APPLY

What can we do to warmly receive those who come Christ and to encourage one another when we face difficulties for following Christ?

READING PLAN

- Monday- John 7:1-9
- Tuesday- John 7:10-24
- Wednesday- John 7:25-36
- Thursday- John 7:37-44
- Friday- John 7:45-52

CH Spurgeon say, "To the unbeliever, Christ is nothing. But to the believer, Christ is everything. To the unbeliever, a mere opinion about Christ is everything. To the true believer, the saving knowledge of Christ has covered up all mere opinions concerning Him. He knows Christ, and lives in Him, and Christ also lives in Him."

What difference does believing in Christ, rather than dismissing Him, make to your day?



LOOKING TO NEXT WEEK...

LESSON #17

THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

JOHN 8:1-11

THE LESSON AT A GLANCE

In this week's lesson, we'll examine a relatively well-known passage: the woman caught in adultery. As you prepare, be aware of the stories that might be running under the surface in your class—those who have committed adultery or those who have been the victims of it, and also those who have experienced sexual violence or exploitation. Scripture is clear that God loves people and hates sin. He stands with those who have been victimized and promises to bring all wickedness to justice in eternity. A sensitivity to this topic will help you teach from a place of truth and grace.

Two interesting German words come up in our lesson today: *schadenfreude* (SHAH-den-froy-duh), rejoicing in someone else's suffering, and *freudenfreude* (FROY-din-froy-da), finding joy in someone else's joy. As you prepare this week, be on the lookout for how these two complex emotions show up in your own life.

THE MAIN IDEA

Jesus reveals what the law exposes—sin and brokenness—yet He responds not with condemnation or indulgence, but with mercy that restores dignity and invites transformation.

QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE

In what areas of life am I tempted to rejoice in someone else's suffering? How can I, as a follower of Christ, experience joy when others find grace?

