



Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 10

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 4:31-38

Summary:

Jesus's disciples rejoin him as he concludes his discussion with the Samaritan woman at the well, and Jesus once again confounds them. As they encourage him to eat, Jesus uses the image of food to describe the sustaining nature of his obedience to the Father's will. More than physical sustenance, the spiritual satisfaction – or necessity – that Jesus felt in fulfilling the will of the Father was difficult for his disciples to grasp. Jesus continues to speak in metaphors, revealing to the disciples that his main goal was to reap a 'harvest' among the people, and that the highest and best goal for him (and for his followers) was to bring in the harvest of God among the nations.

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. Why do you think Jesus responds so cryptically to his disciples' suggestion that he eat? What does this indicate about their focus in contrast to his focus? Consider their continued confusion in v. 33.
3. **Application:** Have you ever found yourself not "on the same page" with the Lord? How do you know when this is the case? How can we help each other not to miss the point when hearing Jesus speak?

4. What did Jesus mean when he said that his “food” was to do the Father’s will (v. 34)? What was he saying about his mission?

5. How about his reference to the “harvest?” What did Jesus intend for the disciples to understand about the task at hand?

6. **Application:** What does it look like for you to ‘lift up your eyes,’ as Jesus told his disciples to do? Do you find it difficult to keep your eyes lifted up amid the cares of day to day life? Why?

7. What are the ‘wages’ and ‘fruit’ that Jesus refers to in v. 36?

8. What might vv. 37-38 tell us about the task that Jesus was entrusting to his disciples? What was he calling them to do?

9. **Application:** How does the answer to number 8 affect the way you approach evangelism in your own life?

10. How would you ‘title’ this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?