



Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 20

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 7:25-53

Summary:

In this passage, Jesus speaks some hard words to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Here, they seek to use their theology to discredit Jesus' claims to be the Messiah, and as always Jesus uses piercing questions and his knowledge of Scripture to challenge the crowds' lack of understanding and belief. And even now, we begin to see a division of opinion among the Jews, with some believing in Jesus and others continuing to reject him. And finally, we see one of Jesus' greatest promises, the promise of "living water" to all who believe!

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. Read vv. 25-26. What causes the crowds to question the wisdom and/or motivations of the religious leaders?
3. What is the claim that Jesus makes about himself in vv. 28-30? How were the people relying on their religious dogma (v. 27), to justify their lack of belief?
4. **Application:** How do we often rely on religious or other justification to rationalize our own lack of belief or obedience?

5. Why don't the religious leaders just arrest Jesus? What's stopping them? What does this tell us about God's sovereign plan?

6. Notice the complete lack of understanding displayed by the religious leaders in vv. 32-36. Why do you think they are completely unable to understand Jesus?

7. **Application:** What might keep us from understanding and obeying the Lord? What might cause us to completely miss what the Lord is saying?

8. What is Jesus calling the people to in vv. 37-39? What's his promise?

9. **Application:** How can we claim this promise in our own lives?

10. Read vv. 40-52. What keeps the Pharisees unable to recognize Jesus? How does their great learning work against their understanding?

11. 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?