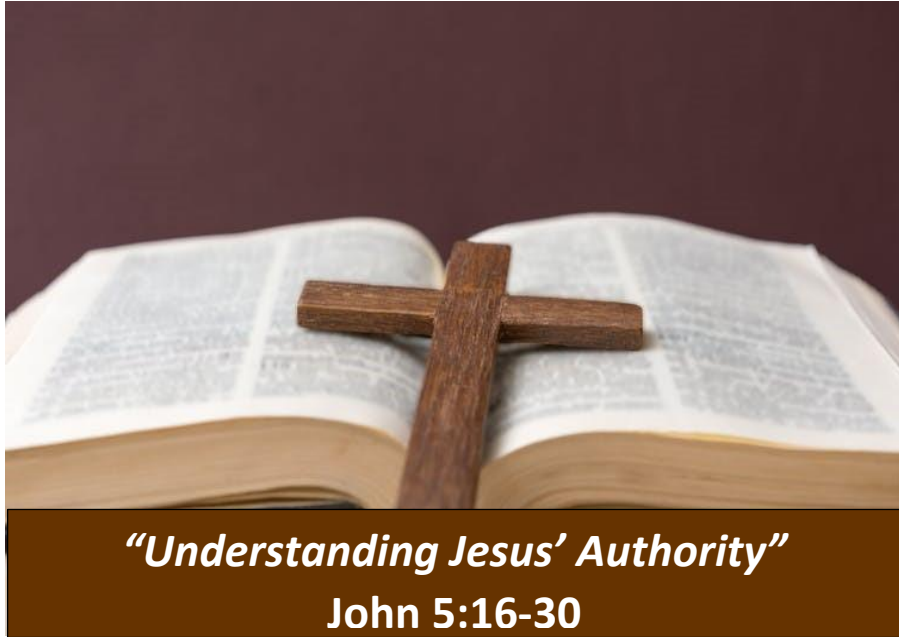


Sunday, October 11, 2020

Fall Series: "Nobody but Jesus"- Studies in John's Good News about Jesus



“Was there ever a time in your life when you were left behind? How did you feel? What did you do?”

Read John 5:1-6. Jesus meets a man who has been ill for 38 years and asks him the question, “Do you want to get well?” Are there areas in my life where I really don't want Jesus to heal me?

In John 5:16 the Jewish leaders again were angry with Jesus. Not just for the miracles, but because he told the man to break the law by carrying his mat on the Sabbath. Are there times we hold to “the letter of the law” and miss what God is doing?

John 5:19 Jesus says he can only do what He sees the Father doing. Based upon what Jesus does, what can you say God is doing? Is that a different picture of God than you imagine?

Read John 5:23 again. Based upon my relationship with Jesus, can I say I am honoring God? What needs to change?

John 5:24-27 Jesus has authority to judge death and life. What verdict would he pronounce on me? Read Matthew 24:36-51. Am I afraid of being “left behind.” Who do I fear may be? What am I doing about it?

Read John 5:25-27. Jesus as the “Son of Man” has the right to judge, because sharing human form he understands the temptations we face, and could overcome with God's help. What am I facing now that I need God's help in overcoming?

“PRAY FOR ONE”- For whom does God place on my heart to pray for an intentional opportunity to intentionally share the good news of Jesus? Will I commit to pray along those lines between now and the end of the year? Who will pray with me?

Next Week: Understanding Jesus' Provision

*****SEE BELOW FOR THIS WEEK'S STUDY QUESTIONS*****

JOHN 5

Conversation Starter.

Jesus heals an invalid in this chapter. What do you think qualifies a healing as miraculous? Do you know of or have you experienced any miraculous healings?

Read John 5:1-15.

- It was obvious that the man was desperate for healing. Why do you think Jesus asked him, “Do you want to be healed?”
- If you were a religious leader, why would you be upset?
- Jesus assumes an air of anonymity in this passage. What could His inconspicuous approach tell us about Him?
- Jesus told the man to stop sinning. Is it possible for someone to do this?
- Why do you think Jesus gave this command?
- Put yourself in the shoes of the man who was healed. How would you feel? What would you be thinking?
- Have you had any experiences where you felt God intervened in your life in some miraculous or special way? How would you describe it?

Read John 5:16-30.

- The Jewish leaders turned against Jesus because He claimed equality with the Father (verse 18). This so incensed them that they began plotting to kill Jesus. Why do you think His claim of equality was so upsetting to them?
- Some people today say that Jesus never claimed to be God. From the evidence in this chapter, how do you think Jesus would answer this charge?
- If Jesus is equal with God the Father, how could that impact a person’s response to Jesus?
- In verses 19-31, what are some ways that Jesus claims equality with the Father?
- How do you feel about Jesus’ claim to be God?
- Jesus discusses condemnation and life in this passage. What does He say about these two subjects (verses 28-30)?
- How could we know that we possess the eternal life that Jesus describes?

Read John 5:31-47.

- What witnesses to Jesus’ authority are mentioned in this passage (verses 31-47)?
- What do you think is the point that the author is making by presenting these witnesses?
- In verses 39-40, what does Jesus say about the role of the Scriptures (the Old Testament) in giving eternal life?
- Even after this discussion, people still refused to believe in Jesus. Why do you think they persisted in their unbelief?
- Jesus says that some will accept others who come in his own name but will not accept Him. Who are some of the others that people might accept today?
- It seems that a hindrance to belief is accepting the praise from others (verse 44). What do you think Jesus means by this?
- How could this discussion about Jesus’ equality with the Father affect your understanding and belief in Jesus?