

JOHN 7:1-8:11

February 24, 2021

1. From Chapter 7 forward, the dislike of Jerusalem's Jewish religious leaders for Jesus will turn into intense hatred. Look at the map in your packet of study questions and locate the Sea of Galilee in the northern area of Galilee. Next, locate Jerusalem in Judea, which is south of Galilee. Read John 1:1-2. Where is Jesus when chapter 7 begins? Why is He here?

Read Leviticus 23:33-34 and 39-43. Record what you learn about the Feast of Booths, which is also called the Feast of Tabernacles.

2. During the Feast of Booths, many Jews would go to Jerusalem to celebrate this weeklong feast. Read the conversation between Jesus and His half-brothers in John 7:3-9. How would you describe the statements from His half-brothers?

What might be some reasons the half-brothers of Jesus do not believe in Him? Read Matthew 13:53-58 for insight.

What do you think Jesus means when He says, "My time has not yet come"? See John 13:1.

Think of a time you were met with hostility or ridicule from family, friends or a co-worker for your faith in Jesus. How did you feel? How did you respond?

3. Read John 7:10-13. Now Jesus goes privately to Jerusalem. List everything going on at the feast concerning Jesus. (In this passage, "Jews" refers to the Jewish leadership.)

4. Read John 7:14-18. What is the reaction of the Jewish religious leaders and the people to the teaching of Jesus?

Picture yourself in the crowd listening to Jesus teach the Scripture. How do you imagine His words and appearance?

How does Jesus describe His teaching as He answers the question of the Jews?

According to verse 18, what is one way you can discern if a teacher is speaking God's truth?

5. Read John 7:19-24. Verse 21 refers to Jesus healing the paralytic on the Sabbath. Review this miracle in John 5:5-11. Using one or two words, describe the attitude Jesus is accusing the religious leaders of having.

Share some times you or others have judged from appearances and not with right judgment.

What are some practical ways you can follow Jesus' words in the key verse John 7:24?

6. Read John 7:25-36. Count the different questions and statements from the Jewish people and leadership. How would you describe this scene?

In what ways does this scene remind you of the attitudes and opinions about Jesus today?

What are Jesus' central truths in His responses to the people?

Why do you think the Jewish religious leaders want Jesus arrested?

7. Some think during the Feast of Booths, the priest would pour water over a rock at the Temple reminding them of the water from the rock on the wilderness journey, and the people would quote Isaiah 12:3. Read this verse along with John 7:37-39. What is Jesus offering in His invitation to the people?

Ponder the life-giving blessings you have received since believing in Jesus. Take a moment to thank Him for one or two spiritual blessings He has provided for you today.

8. Read John 7:40-52. After hearing Jesus' words, what are the opposing thoughts about Jesus in verses 40-44?

Contrast the attitude of the officers who come back without arresting Jesus with the attitude of the Pharisees.

9. As Jesus continually speaks the truth, consider all the different responses from the people in chapter 7. What characteristics do you want to have as you share Jesus through your words and actions?

10. Read John 7:53–8:11. Where is Jesus and what is He doing according to verse 8:2?

Why do the religious leaders want to test or trap Jesus?

What do the religious leaders do after hearing Jesus' words?

11. Reread verses 9-11. What do you think the woman might be thinking and feeling after this encounter with Jesus?

What lessons do you learn from the words and actions of Jesus in this story?

What are some practical ways you will apply these lessons in your everyday life?

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

Controversy, Confusion, and Division

John 7:1 – 8:11

Before the Feast of Booths

7:1-9

- Jesus is in Galilee avoiding the religious leaders in Jerusalem.
- Jesus is urged by His half brothers to show His works at the Feast.
- Jesus is following the will and timetable of His Father.

“Impatience of man must learn to wait on the wisdom of God.”

Walk with Jesus, and _____ cooperate with God's plans.

During the Feast

7:10-36

- As Jesus quietly goes to Jerusalem, there is much controversy about Him.
- The people marvel at His teaching. Jesus states His teaching and authority comes from God.
- Jesus explains to the leaders their legalism has blinded them to the truth of God.
- Jesus tells the confused crowd He knows God and it is God who sent Him.

Do not judge from _____ appearances, but judge from sincere devotion to the truth.

Be discerning, by believing and knowing the Living Word and the written Word.

Last Day of the Feast

7:37-52

- Jesus gives an invitation: If you are needy, believe in Me and receive salvation.
- Many believe in Jesus, but others doubt and refuse to believe.
- The religious leaders adamantly reject Jesus in spite of convincing testimony.

Do not misunderstand who Jesus is!

Cling to the only One who _____ and gives eternal life- Jesus!

After the Feast

8:1-11

- Jewish leaders, seeking to trap Jesus, bring a sinful woman to Him.
- Jesus' authoritative words convict their hearts of their own sin.
- Jesus rebukes sin, but graciously gives the woman hope for a new life.

Remember, God hates sin, but He loves _____.

When confronted with sin, see the need and opportunity for forgiveness.

JESUS the WORD – John 7:1-8:11

February 24-25, 2021

MARK 6:3a “Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?”

PSALM 27:14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

ISAIAH 30:18 Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

JOHN 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

PSALM 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

ISAIAH 12:3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

JOHN 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
