


Believe and Have Life

The Gospel of John

John 10:22–42

Read John 10:22–39.

1. Why are these people in Jerusalem frustrated with Jesus? (v. 24; * Jn. 7:25–31, 40–41a; 10:19–21)

2. Up to now John has recorded only one time when Jesus declared that he is the Christ (4:25–26) and yet this is the main point of his book (20:30–31). Nevertheless, how has Jesus been “speaking” this truth clearly and continually? (v. 25)

3. What is preventing these people from really hearing him? (vv. 25–27; 8:37–38, 42–45, 47)

4. Verses 27–30 summarize the good news that Jesus has been teaching. What do we learn about:
 - The Father

 - The Son


 - The sheep


5. In the world of sheep, why do you think the mention of “snatching” (vv. 28–29) is a terrifying idea?


6. Who has the sheep in their hands? (vv. 28–29)

How is this truth reassuring to you? (You may want to consider Jn. 6:39; 10:11–14 and Rom. 8:35–39.)

7. Jesus is claiming to be one with the Father (v. 30).
 - a. Why do his listeners react with murderous anger (vv. 31, 39)? (vv. 33, 36b)

 - b. How do his miracles back up this claim? (vv. 25, 32, 37–38; * Acts 2:22)

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.

8. Jesus' miracles show us that he is more than a "mere man" (v. 33). What do they show us about Jesus?
- Changed water into wine (2:1–11)
 - Healed official's son from a distance (4:46–53)
 - Healed the man who had been disabled for 38 years (5:5–9)
 - Fed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish (6:5–14)
 - Walked on water (6:16–21)
 - Healed the blind beggar with spit and mud (9:1–7)
9. Which one of these miraculous signs speaks to you the most? Why?
10. In verse 37 Jesus says, "I am God's Son." Other leaders in Israel's history have also been referred to as sons of God, as in Psalm 82:6 which Jesus quotes in verses 34–35.
How is Jesus' Sonship unique? (v. 36; 1:32–34; 3:16–17, 31–36;  * Mt. 17:5–6)

Read John 10:40–42.

11. Jesus escapes the angry crowd and leaves the temple.
- a. What is the truth that John spoke so convincingly? (1:15, 26–30; 3:26–30)
 - b. Now that almost three years have passed, what do the people who follow Jesus out into the desert think about John's testimony and about Jesus? (vv. 41–42)

12. Read this famous quotation from C. S. Lewis:

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." — C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

What do you believe about Jesus? Check any that might apply to you:

- I am still not convinced.
- I have certainly been challenged to rethink my position.
- I want to learn more about Jesus.
- I am concerned that I have not really been a believer after all.
- I really do want the eternal life Jesus promises.
- I believe. Help my unbelief!
- I believe that Jesus is who he says he is.
- I believe that Jesus has the power to change me and my life.
- I believe but I need to start listening and following more.
- I have seen Jesus in a new and compelling way during this study.

You may want to discuss your responses with your small group leader.

The End-of-the-Year Sharing Time is coming up on April 25!

This is a time to think about what God has been up to during our study of John! Set aside some time in the next two weeks to put down on this paper a thought or two about how God has used our study this year to enrich your life and your understanding of Jesus. Perhaps it's a special verse, a personal 'aha' moment, an image one of the speakers used ... Go back over your notes and try to choose at least ONE truth that God has impressed upon your heart this year through our study of John.

Use the space below to write it out. Bring it to the sharing time. You don't HAVE to share it with everyone, but if you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to do so, you will have it all written out and ready. If you DON'T share it, that is fine - at least you still have it and can keep it as a reminder of the work God is doing in your life.

(FYI – During the sharing time, we employ the 3 B's – Brief, Beneficial, and Biblical. We want God to be honored and to give lots of women an opportunity to share!)