



John

Lesson 8 Chapter 8

From Chapter 8 through the rest of the book, John focuses on the last six to nine months of Jesus' life. These months are spent in and around Jerusalem. The tension was rising between Jesus and the religious leaders and they continued to plot against Him. John now focuses on the increased persecution and confrontations among them, as well as many personal teaching lessons between Jesus and His disciples.

Because of the numerous miracles and signs that Jesus had done, He became very popular with the people. As a result, the religious leaders were having a hard time getting rid of Him because they were afraid of their own popularity with the people. In John 7:45-46 even the guards that were sent to arrest Jesus didn't do so because they believed that He might be the Messiah. In response to this, the leaders determined to attempt to trap Jesus in a religious discussion that would discredit Him. If they could do it in a very sly way, He may even give them a legitimate reason to arrest Him. Chapter 8 begins with one of these traps. Although this segment in John 7:53-8:11 isn't found in many of the original

manuscripts, it is considered to be an accurate account of an actual event in the ministry of Jesus that was added to John's gospel at a later date.

In chapter 7 Jesus had a significant discourse with the religious leaders about His identity, where He came from, and where He received His teachings. His answer, that He came from the Father and received His teaching from the Father, only made them more suspicious and hostile. He also declared to the people that if they were thirsty, He could give those who believed in Him "living water." Now in chapter 8, after the failed attempt to trap Him over details of the Law, Jesus has another discussion about His identity. This time He states that He is the "light of the world." This statement leads to the religious leaders questioning His witness about Himself. But Jesus makes it clear that His witness is validated by the Father. He also clarifies that the reason they don't know Him is because they don't know His Father. When He identifies their father as the devil, their hatred of Him escalates, and they attempt to kill Him. But, that was unsuccessful, because His time had not yet come...

READ CHAPTER 8

1. *What were the leaders wanting Jesus to make a judgment about? Vs. 5 Why is this strange considering the accusations they had already made against Him? See Mark 2:24, 3:2; Luke 13:14; John 5:9-12.*

2. *How did Jesus answer that was different than what they expected? Vs. 7 Why did Jesus refuse to respond to what they were actually asking Him? John 8:15; John 7:21-24; John 12:46-47*



Jesus' refusal to respond to the alleged sin of the woman was not expressing a denial or it or diminishing the need for it to be addressed. He was more importantly identifying the people's hypocritical and evil response, and their failure to see their own sin and need of forgiveness. He was showing that the Law wasn't intended to be used as a weapon of simply judgment or condemnation, but an instrument of recognition and agreement with the holiness of God and the significance of man's relationship to Him.

3. *What did Jesus say to the woman that reveals that He understands the gravity of sin? Vs. 11*
4. *Read John 8:7, Matthew 7:1, and Romans 2:1. Do you think by not judging the woman that Jesus was saying that we should never make a conclusion, opinion, or response as to whether certain behavior is wrong? What was Jesus trying to tell us in John 8:1-11? Explain.*
5. *From John 1:4, 8:12, and 12:35, what does it mean to "walk in the light" in contrast to "walking in darkness?" Can you do both at the same time? Why or why not? See also Ephesians 4:17-18, 5:8-11*
6. *What did Jesus say was the only way to not "die in your sin"? Vs. 24*

7. *Even though the things Jesus was saying were very difficult to understand, according to vs. 30 many believed in Him. What did He say was a requirement for those who would be His true disciples? What promise did He make them? Vs. 30-36*
8. *Describe the freedom He was talking about and how you have experienced that in your own life.*
9. *The Jews believed that because they were physical descendants of Abraham they would receive the promises made to Abraham and his offspring (Matthew 3:9). Jesus informed them that the devil not Abraham was their father, because they do the deeds of the devil not Abraham. According to Galatians 3:9 and Romans 9:6-8, who are Abraham's true children and what will they receive?*



There is a false teaching that is filtering into many churches and organizations today called “replacement theology” or “supersessionism.” That is the teaching that the Church is the replacement for Israel, and that the many promise made to Israel in the Bible are fulfilled in the Christian church, not in Israel. Though there is much discussion regarding the reasons for that controversy, we at Pursue believe that though there are Jews who believe in Jesus and are a part of the Church as the body of Christ, God still has a future plan for the nation of Israel that is separate from the Church that will be finalized after the rapture. The Apostle Paul assures us in Romans 11 that though the Israelites have stumbled over the Rock of Jesus, they did not stumble so as to fall. A temporary hardening is occurring in their nation until the fullness of the Gentiles come in. After that, God will once again deal with His wayward people.

10. *What did Jesus tell them that made them begin to stone Him, and why was that so offensive to them? See also Exodus 3:14-15, John 1:1, 17:5 & 24.*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
