



October 25, 2015 | John 5

Discuss: Have you ever been falsely accused? How did you respond?

In John chapter 5 Jesus begins to encounter some serious opposition and accusations.

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath | Read John 5:1-15.

[Q] How does Jesus' healing here demonstrate the grace of God?

[Q] The seventh commandment is: "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." (See Exodus 20:8-11.) Why are the Pharisees so upset at the man who is healed?

[Q] When do you take time to rest and enjoy God? How do you decide what to do or not do during your Sabbath time?

In his book, *The Grace Awakening*, Charles Swindoll defines legalism as: "...an attitude, a mentality based on pride. It is an obsessive conformity to an artificial standard for the purpose of exalting oneself. A legalist assumes the place of authority and pushes it to unwarranted extremes."

[Q] Have you ever been more concerned about checking off a Christian activity than the reality or relationship behind it? How can we guard against this?

Jesus and His Father | Read John 5:16-30.

[Q] The Jewish leaders make two serious accusations against Jesus (16-18). Which is false and which is true?

[Q] What specifically do you learn about the relationship between Jesus and His Father from verses 19-20?

[Q] How is John 5:23 a bombshell in our pluralistic society?

[Q] In verses 21-30, what stands out to you about Jesus and His Father?

Witnesses for Jesus | Read John 5:31-47.

[Q] What witnesses does Jesus call forward to testify on His behalf? How does their testimony validate His claims?

[Q] What should be the role of Scripture in our lives (39-40)? How is it possible for a person to be a student of the Bible, but lacking in spiritual discernment? How can we stay committed to the truth of the Word but not be legalistic or arrogant?

Pray

...for opportunities to: share your story, serve, eat with, and listen to those God has put in your life who don't know Him.

Take it further: When did Moses write about Jesus (John 5:46)? Here are a few examples:

1. In Genesis 3:15 Jesus is the seed of the woman who will crush Satan's head. (Heb. 2:14)
2. In Exodus 12 He is the sacrificial Lamb who saves. (John 1:29-36)
3. In Leviticus the instructions for the Day of Atonement required that the High Priest take the blood of the sacrifice into the Holy of Holies. Hebrews tells us that Christ is our final High Priest. (Lev. 16:5; Heb. 8:1, 2)
4. In Numbers 24:17 He is the star out of Jacob, the scepter out of Israel. (Rev. 22:16) See also Num. 21:9 and John 3:14-15.
5. In Deuteronomy 18:15 He is the prophet like Moses. (Acts 3:22)