

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

JESUS DEFENDS HIS AUTHORITY

John 5:19-47

Main Thought: In John 5:19-47, Jesus provides some arguments in support of His identity and authority as the Son of God.

1. LIKE _____, LIKE SON. (vv 19-23)
 - 1) He is by nature, _____. (v 19)
 - 2) The Father's love for the _____. (v 20)
 - 3) The Father shows the Son _____ so the Son will do likewise. (vv 20-23)
2. PRACTICAL _____ OF JESUS BEING THE SON OF GOD. (vv 24-30)
 - 1) Whoever hears and believes has _____ life. (v 24)
 - 2) Jesus has _____ over death. (vv 25-26)
 - 3) Jesus will be the final _____. (vv 27-30)
3. TESTIMONIES _____ JESUS AS THE SON OF GOD. (vv 31-47)
 - 1) The testimony of John the _____. (v 31-35)
 - 2) The testimony of Jesus' _____. (v 36)
 - 3) The testimony of the _____. (v 37)
 - 4) The testimony of the _____. (vv 38-40)
 - 5) The testimony of _____. (vv 41-47)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read John 5:19-47 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What is the immediate context of these verses? What prompted the religious leaders persecution of Jesus and His defense of His authority?

3. What arguments does Jesus give in defense of His authority and identity in verses 19-23?

4. Why does Jesus use the phrase "very truly I tell you"? (vv 24, 25)

5. What practical implication of Jesus being the Son of God are spelled out in verses 24-30?

6. What does Jesus mean when he says, "If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true"? (v 31)

7. What testimonies does Jesus reference confirming his identity and authority in verses 33-47)?

8. What did John the Baptist testify about Jesus? (See Jn. 1:29, 32-34, 36)

9. How do Jesus' works testify about Him? (See Luke 4:16-21)

10. What did God the Father testify about Jesus? (See Matt. 3:16-17)

11. How do the Scriptures testify about Jesus? (See Luke 24:25-27)

12. Why would the testimony of Moses be important to the religious leaders? How does Moses testify about Jesus? (See Deut. 18:17-19) What other symbolism can you think of in the writing of Moses that pointed forward to Jesus?

13. If, as these verses indicate, Jesus is the Son of God and therefore has the authority to say and do the things He did, then what are the implications for your life? How will you respond?