



The Gospel of John – Chapters 7 - 8 : Book Study  
The Father and the Son  
Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

**Gospel of John - Chapters 7 - 8: Book Study**  
**The Father and the Son**  
**Sunday August 03, 2025 - Sermon Outline**

**CHAPTER SEVEN: RIVERS OF LIVING WATER**

**MY TIME HAS NOT YET COME (JOHN 7:1-10)**

**1** After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him.

**2** Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand.

**3** His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing.

**4** For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."

**5** For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

**6** Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.

**7** The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil.

**8** You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come."

**9** When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee.

**10** But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret.

**Vs 1: Jesus ministered in Galilee**

Based on the Gospel accounts, during Jesus' three and half years of public ministry, He spent most of time ministering in the northern district of Galilee. This could have been about two-thirds of His time (about 24 months) ministering in Galilee. The district of Galilee included: Nazareth (His hometown), Capernaum (His ministry base), Bethsaida, Chorazin, Cana, Nain, Magdala, Gennesaret, etc. Some of the key events in Galilee include: Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7), Feeding of the 5,000 (John 6), Healing many (blind, lame, demon-possessed), Parables of the Kingdom (Matthew 13), Calming the storm, walking on water, Sending out the Twelve (Matthew 10), Transfiguration (likely on Mount Hermon or Tabor), etc.

The Lord Jesus would have spent approximately 6-12 months in the district of Judea and Jerusalem mostly during Jewish feasts. The district of Judea included: Jerusalem, Bethany, Jericho, and other towns in the south. Some of the key events in Judea include: Cleansing the Temple (John 2:13–22 – likely on two occasions), meeting with Nicodemus



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(John 3), healing at the Pool of Bethesda (John 5), the Good Shepherd discourse (John 10), raising Lazarus in Bethany (John 11) and the triumphal entry, Passion week, crucifixion and resurrection.

He chose to minister in Galilee to avoid the Jews who wanted to kill Him. The Lord Jesus while being bold and fearless, was also wise and not reckless about how He lived here on earth. This action speaks of His humanity and also the wisdom with which He operated.

*Application:* While we have wonderful promises of divine protection, blessing, provision, healing, etc. we also walk with wisdom here on earth like Jesus. We do not conduct ourselves recklessly or foolishly.

### **Vs 2: The Feast of Tabernacles**

The Feast of Tabernacles also called 'Sukkot' (Hebrew for "booths" or "tabernacles") was one of the three pilgrimage festivals (along with Passover and Pentecost) where all Jewish males were required to go to Jerusalem (Leviticus 23:33–44; Deuteronomy 16:16). This would typically be during the 7th month (Tishri), around September–October. It was a harvest festival thanking God for His provision and a commemoration of Israel's 40 years in the wilderness, when they dwelt in tents/booths and God cared for them. During the Feast of Tabernacles, the Jewish people lived in temporary shelters ("sukkot") for 7 days to remember God's protection and provision. They also gathered in the Temple daily for water-pouring rituals and lamp-lighting ceremonies. We will detail these two ceremonies later. It is in the backdrop of these ceremonies during which Jesus proclaimed: "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink" (John 7:37) and "I am the Light of the World" (John 8:12).

Side Note: Zechariah prophesied in Zechariah 14:16 that nations would keep this Feast during the Millennium recognizing that God is Himself dwelling among men: "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles."

### **Vs 5: Even His brothers did not believe**

It is interesting that Jesus' half-brothers did not believe in Him at this time, despite the signs He did and His preaching. They eventually did believe in Jesus Acts 1:14 *"These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers"*. This points us to the authenticity of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is the only thing that made believers out of His



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unbelieving brothers! This also encourages us knowing that even if initially there is reluctance, God can bring people in to encountering Him powerfully.

**Vs 3-10: I am not yet going...then He also went**

In these few verses we see Jesus express sensitivity to the Father's timing for His life, but we also see what seems to be a sudden change of mind, saying I am not going and then actually going to Jerusalem for the Feast. Let's look at both these, closely.

When the Lord Jesus states in John 7:6 "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready." and again in John 7:8 "You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come" He is referring to both the Father's time for Him to go to Jerusalem for the Feast where He would be seen publicly, as well as the time for His impending crucifixion. It shows us Jesus' deep sensitivity to the Father's timings for things in His life here on earth, and His complete submission to listening and moving according to the Father's timings.

But why then did Jesus still go to the Feast after His brothers went. As John 7:9-10 records: "When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee. But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret". We understand this in the context of what was happening. His brothers wanted Him to go to Jerusalem to show Himself publicly and gather disciples to Himself. That was the intent of their mocking statements. Their approach was "go big publicly", "go now", "go to gather crowds".

However, the Lord Jesus shows us that He chose not man's way, not man's timing, not man's purpose. Instead, He chose God's way (go quietly in secret), God's timing (after His brothers had gone), God's purpose (speak God's Word in the Temple).

*Application:* How can we practice following God's way, God's timing, God's purpose in our lives, day to day?

**MY DOCTRINE IS NOT MINE (JOHN 7:11-24)**

**11 Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, "Where is He?"**

**12 And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives the people."**

**13 However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews.**

**14 Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught.**

**15 And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?"**



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- 16 Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.  
17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority.  
18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.  
19 Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"  
20 The people answered and said, "You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?"  
21 Jesus answered and said to them, "I did one work, and you all marvel.  
22 Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.  
23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath?  
24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

**Vs 11-13: A good man or a deceiver?**

Some said He is good. Others said He deceives people

Even Jesus' had people who thought He was a deceiver and did not recognize Him for who He was.

*Application:* How do you respond when people question you or your message?

**Vs 14: Teaching in the Temple Courts**

The Feast of Tabernacles lasted 7 days. After possibly the first three days of celebrations, perhaps on the fourth day, Jesus went into the Temple and taught.

How could Jesus teach publicly in the Temple courts if He wasn't a Pharisee, Sadducee, or trained rabbi from the Sanhedrin? The Temple complex had large outer courts, such as the Court of the Gentiles and the Court of Women, where rabbis, scholars, and even ordinary men could publicly teach. During major feasts like Tabernacles, many teachers would gather informal groups to instruct pilgrims. Jesus used this open setting to teach, without needing official Sanhedrin approval.

**Vs 16: My doctrine is not Mine**

Jesus announced where He got His teaching from. He said it came from the One who sent Him, referring to God the Father. Jesus had no formal rabbinical education under a known teacher like Hillel, Shammai, or Gamaliel yet He taught with amazing clarity, authority, and depth. Jesus claimed His authority and teaching came directly from God,



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not from man-made institutions. This was radically different from Pharisaic or rabbinic tradition, who would state "Rabbi A said this...." and "Rabbi B said this....".

*Application:* When we speak and share God's Word do we wish to present God's truth or our own ideas?

**Vs 17: Key to discerning doctrine**

If we are a people who really want to do God's will, if our will is yielded and aligned to His will - that is key to being able to discern if a doctrine is from God or from man.

*Application:* In order to discern right doctrine we need to keep ourselves in a place where we are always aligned to and seeking to do His will.

**Vs 18: Being a true and genuine messenger**

The heart posture of a true messenger is to desire to glorify the One who sent Him alone. If we speak of and about ourselves, we are seeking our own glory and we are not true witnesses. To the extent we seek glory for ourselves to that extent we are false witnesses and there is unrighteousness in us.

*Application:* What is the motive and intent of our hearts when we serve God? Do we do so to gain something for ourselves or do we do this entirely to glorify God and bless people?

It appears that the healing of the crippled man by the pool of Bethesda on the Sabbath, had so affected the people in Jerusalem that Jesus continues to ask why the Jews found this wrong when they would readily circumcise a man on the Sabbath.

**Vs 24: Judge not by appearance, but righteously**

A principle we can apply when we assess and evaluate things - words, actions and situations. Don't go how things appear on the surface or superficially. Instead look deeper on things that really determine what is right and wrong.

**I KNOW HIM, FOR I AM FROM HIM, AND HE SENT ME (JOHN 7:25-31)**

**25** Now some of them from Jerusalem said, "Is this not He whom they seek to kill?

**26** But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ?

**27** However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from."



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**28** Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, "You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know.

**29** But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me."

**30** Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

**31** And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?"

**Vs 29: I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me**

The Lord Jesus repeatedly announced of His intimate knowledge of the Father and that He came from the Father and was sent by the Father.

*Application:* Our confidence is based on the fact that we know our Father, that we come from Him and that we represent Him. Knowing Him, coming from His presence and being commissioned by Him should give us all the confidence we need to minister in His name and represent Him.

**Vs 30: His hour had not yet come**

Our times are in His hands (Psalm 31:15). As long as Jesus walked in time and step, in obedience to the Father, no One could harm Him, for God's time for His crucifixion had not yet come. Obedience is our place of security.

**Vs 31: Many believed in Him**

It seems to indicate that the Lord Jesus did many signs and miracles at the Temple during this Feast, though not recorded here. This led to many people believing in Him as the Christ, the Messiah. Signs and miracles still have the same outcomes today, in many situations.

#### **RIVERS OF LIVING WATER (JOHN 7:32-39)**

**32** The Pharisees heard the crowd murmuring these things concerning Him, and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take Him.

**33** Then Jesus said to them, "I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me.

**34** You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come."

**35** Then the Jews said among themselves, "Where does He intend to go that we shall not find Him? Does He intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?



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**36 What is this thing that He said, 'You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come'?"**

**37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.**

**38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."**

**39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**

The Feast of Tabernacles was joyous Jewish festival, with pilgrims in Jerusalem, camping in booths (sukkot) on rooftops and streets. The Feast of Tabernacles lasted seven days with two daily ceremonies: the Water-Pouring Ceremony and the Lamp-Lighting Ceremony that were held during Jesus' time at the Second Temple in Jerusalem:

#### **The Water-pouring ceremony**

This was also referred to as "Rejoicing at the House of the Water Drawing" and was probably based on Isaiah 12:3: "*Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation.*" It symbolized thanksgiving for rain (blessing on the crops) and anticipated the Messianic outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28; Zechariah 14:8).

The daily Water-Pouring Ceremony was carried out each morning for 7 days. A priest would draw water from the Pool of Siloam in a golden pitcher. There would be a procession from the Pool of Siloam, with crowds of people following with joy and music (flutes, harps, cymbals), waving palm branches and singing Psalms 113–118. This parade became a symbol of anticipation and worship. They ascended the Temple Mount via the Water Gate. As the priest entered the Temple courts, a shofar (ram's horn) was blown three times. At the Altar of Burnt Offering, the priest poured the water into a silver basin on the southwest corner. Simultaneously, wine was poured into a second basin. Both ran down into channels that led under the altar.

While all this had been going on, on the seventh day, Jesus stood and announced John 7:37-39. Jesus makes this declaration on the last and greatest day of the feast when the water-pouring reached its climax. He declares Himself to be the Source of the Spirit, fulfilling the imagery of living water promised by the prophets. And then announces the coming outpouring of the Spirit and that these rivers of living water will flow out of believers. The Church becomes a spiritual fulfillment of Joel 2:28; Zechariah 14:8; Ezekiel 47:1-9.

In His announcement of John 7:37-39, Jesus uses the same imagery of "rivers of living water" as stated in Zechariah 14:8 "*And in that day it shall be—That living waters shall*



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*flow from Jerusalem, Half of them toward the eastern sea And half of them toward the western sea; In both summer and winter it shall occur."*

*Application:* The Church is the spiritual fulfillment of Zechariah 14:8 as described by Jesus in John 7:37-39. Are you as a believer seeing this fulfilled in your life? Are you being a channel of these rivers of living water flowing out of you to bless those around you?

**Vs 37-39: Thirsting, drinking, flowing**

Thirst

Come to me and drink

Out of you will flow rivers

With reference to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit being released through believers, notice the sequence. We must be thirsty, desiring for the rivers of living water. We must go to Jesus and drink or receive through our fellowship with Him. Then out of our innermost (spirit) being these rivers will flow, which we should release by faith.

**NO MAN EVER SPOKE LIKE THIS MAN! (JOHN 7:40-53)**

**40** Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet."

**41** Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee?"

**42** Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?"

**43** So there was a division among the people because of Him.

**44** Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

**45** Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?"

**46** The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!"

**47** Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived?"

**48** Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him?

**49** But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed."

**50** Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them,

**51** "Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?"

**52** They answered and said to him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee."

**53** And everyone went to his own house.





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People were confused about Jesus, because He did much of His ministry in Galilee, while people were expecting the Messiah to come out of Judea. Nicodemus whom we first read about in John 3, spoke up in Jesus' defense, challenging the Pharisees who already deemed Jesus a liar and deceiver before actually assessing his teaching and works. Once again, the Pharisees pointed to Jesus' ministry in Galilee as an indication that He was not a prophet.

*Application:* How often do we miss what God is doing, because what He is releasing seems to come from an unexpected place or through an unexpected vessel?

It is interesting to note the response of the officers who had been sent to arrest Jesus. They were so impacted by the teaching of Jesus they responded, 'no man ever spoke like this Man!'.

## CHAPTER EIGHT: THE FATHER AND THE SON

### WOMAN, WHERE ARE YOUR ACCUSERS? (JOHN 8:1-11)

**1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.**

**2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them.**

**3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,**

**4 they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act.**

**5 Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?"**

**6 This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.**

**7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."**

**8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.**

**9 Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.**

**10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"**

**11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."**



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This was the morning after the Feast of Tabernacles. The previous evening things would have ended with a grand celebration of the lamp-lighting ceremony that would have illuminated the entire Temple. The crowds are still in Jerusalem. Jesus is back in the Temple courts and teaching. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in the very act of adultery to Jesus. They knew the Law. According to the Law Leviticus 20:10 and Deuteronomy 22:22 both were to be punished equally — the man and the woman.

Leviticus 20:10 *"The man who commits adultery with another man's wife, he who commits adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death."*

Deuteronomy 22:22 *"If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then both of them shall die—the man that lay with the woman, and the woman; so you shall put away the evil from Israel."*

They said the woman was caught in the act—so logically, the man would have been present too. But the man was not brought to Jesus. So obviously, the focus of the scribes and Pharisees was not really about justice but trapping Jesus (John 8:6). This shows their hypocrisy and their willful misuse of the Law for manipulation, not righteousness.

Jesus through the word of wisdom simply turned their trap back on them, revealing their sin, guilt and unworthiness to judge and enforce the Law.

This incident also reveals God's abundant grace and mercy towards us not only forgiving us but releasing us from shame and condemnation. The words of Jesus *"neither do I condemn you"* (John 8:11) not only released mercy that brought forgiveness, but grace that wiped out shame and condemnation and restored honor and dignity in this woman's life. And when God releases mercy and grace, His invitation is always to a life of holiness and consecration *"go and sin no more"*.

### **I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD (JOHN 8:12-20)**

**12** Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

**13** The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true."



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**14** Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going.

**15** You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one.

**16** And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me.

**17** It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true.

**18** I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me."

**19** Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also."

**20** These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.

#### **The Lamp-Lighting Ceremony Illumination of the Temple)**

For seven days, this lamp-lighting ceremony was an evening ritual that took place in the Court of Women. The people danced with torches, sang, and rejoiced into the night. The Levites played instruments, and the greatest scholars would join in worship. Four enormous golden lampstands (about 75 ft tall) were erected in the Court of Women. Each had four golden bowls, giving a total of 16 large oil lamps. Young priests would climb ladders to fill the lamps with oil and light them. The light was so bright it is said that there was not a courtyard in Jerusalem that did not reflect the light of the Temple. To the Jews this light symbolized: (A)The Shekinah (Divine Presence) that led Israel in the wilderness. (B)It also pointed to the hope of the coming Messiah, as the Light to the world (Isaiah 9:2; Isaiah 42:6).

The Temple Treasury was a specific area within the Court of the Women in the Second Temple in Jerusalem for worshippers to give offerings, and it housed 13 trumpet-shaped offering boxes (called shofar chests) where people deposited their temple contributions.

Jesus made this bold claim in the Temple courts immediately after the lighting ceremony. *"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."* He identified Himself as the true light.

#### **I ALWAYS DO THOSE THINGS THAT PLEASE HIM (JOHN 8:21-30)**

**21** Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come."

**22** So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come'?"



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**23 And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.**

**24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."**

**25 Then they said to Him, "Who are You?" And Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning.**

**26 I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him."**

**27 They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.**

**28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.**

**29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."**

**30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.**

Consider how Jesus distinguishes Himself from the Jews. He is clearly pointing to the fact that He came from the Father, and therefore is the One sent by the Father:

*"You are from beneath; I am from above." (vs 23)*

*"You are of this world; I am not of this world." (vs 23)*

This emphatic statement from Jesus cannot be mistaken or misunderstood.

*"if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins" (vs 24)*

### **The Father and the Son**

Consider Jesus relationship with the Father, as His Son:

*"I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him" (vs 26)* – He was listening in to the Father.

*"as My Father taught Me, I speak these things" (vs 28)* – He was learning from the Father.

*"I always do those things that please Him" (vs 29)* – He knew what pleased the Father and did just those things.

*"The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him" (vs 29)* – The Father graced His loving and obedient Son with His presence.

*Application:* Can we work on developing a similar relationship with our heavenly Father that Jesus modeled for us?

### **I SPEAK WHAT I HAVE SEEN WITH MY FATHER (JOHN 8:31-38)**



**31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.**

**32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."**

**33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?"**

**34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.**

**35 And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever.**

**36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.**

**37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.**

**38 I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."**

#### **Vs 31-32 Abide in my word**

There were some Jews who believed in Jesus.

But now Jesus challenged them to abide, remain, stay with and continue in His word, the teachings He had given them. That is one of the marks of being His disciple. And as we continue in His word, we will come to encounter and experience the truth and knowing the truth will set us free. The freedom Jesus was speaking of was freedom from sin and its consequences (vs 34).

All of us are enslaved by sin. How do we know this? Jesus stated that if we commit sin, we are doing this because we are slaves to sin. Sin dominates our lives. But the Son, Jesus alone, can truly set us free from sin so that we are no longer slaves of sin.

Jesus once again affirms that what He is speaking, His doctrine, His teaching is what He has received from the Father. "I speak what I have seen with My Father" (vs 38).

#### **I PROCEEDED FORTH AND CAME FROM GOD (JOHN 8:39-47)**

**39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham.**

**40 But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.**

**41 You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God."**

**42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.**



**43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.**

**44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.**

**45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.**

**46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?**

**47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."**

**Vs 40: Abraham did not do this**

While the Jews have been pointing to the patriarch Abraham and stating that they were descendants of Abraham, Jesus begins to contrast Himself with Abraham. Jesus is speaking to the Jews the truth which He has heard from God. Abraham did not do this. While Abraham was a true patriarch and example of faith, he did not unveil the Father and bring God's truth to the people, the way Jesus was doing.

**Vs 43,47: Opening of spiritual ears**

*43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.*

*47 He who is of God hears God's words;...*

You cannot understand what I am saying, because you cannot hear my words. Now of course they had ears to hear his words in the natural realm. So, their inability to hear Jesus' words was not a natural one, but a spiritual one.

Their spiritual ears were shut and so they could not hear and understand the truth that Jesus was proclaiming (vs 40). Their spiritual ears were shut to the truth by the Father of lies. Coming out from under the devil the Father of lies, and bringing people into being under God, enables them to hear God's words.

**Vs 44: The father of lies**

Jesus describes the condition of fallen man. People were created as children of God. Now because of sin the devil has become our father and we do the evil desires that the devil wants us to do. The devil is a murderer and a liar and as people we are inclined to do these similar things.



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Jesus calls the devil the father of lies. It is with lies that the devil blinds our ears, minds and hearts from the truth.

**Vs 47: Hearing God**

When we submit ourselves to God, become His children, we are then positioned to hear God's words.

**BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM (JOHN 8:48-59)**

**48 Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?"**

**49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.**

**50 And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges.**

**51 Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."**

**52 Then the Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.'**

**53 Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?"**

**54 Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God.**

**55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word.**

**56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."**

**57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"**

**58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."**

**59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.**

In this passage and the Jews and Jesus discuss Abraham the patriarch of the Jews, Jesus makes one of the clearest and absolute statements of His being deity. He speaks about seeing Abraham rejoicing to see this day by faith, implying that Jesus was there when Abraham was there, about 2000 years prior. When challenged that He was not even 50 years old, Jesus replied *"before Abraham was, I AM"* using the very title of God. Did Jesus claim deity? Here is the clearest statement that He did!

**Vs 58-59: Deity in humanity**



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We see once again deity in humanity. In vs 58 Jesus affirms His deity. In vs 59, He had to protect His humanity, withdraw and hide Himself when the Jews were ready to stone Him.

**SUMMARY**

**GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL**

**SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME**

**Minister as the Spirit leads**





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**Sunday August 03, 2025 - Sermon Outline**

There is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 1.5 to 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

**Preparation**

**Life Group Leader:** To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon or review the Sunday Sermon notes. Please do not make your life group read through the complete sermon notes during the life group. All you need to do is have individuals read the Scriptures listed below and then open for a time of discussion, sharing and learning using the questions given below. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

**Welcome**

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

**LISTEN to God's Word**

Read the following Scripture references: *Kindly read John 7-8 before the Life Group meeting*

**INVESTIGATE God's Word Together**

Life Group is a discussion-based, participatory meeting with everyone given the opportunity to share their learning. Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.



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*1, Discuss the significance of Jesus statements on rivers of living water (John 7:37-39) and being the light of the world (John 8:12) in the backdrop of the Feast of Tabernacles.*

*2, How is the prophecy of Zechariah 14:8 and Ezekiel 47:1-9 being spiritually fulfilled by the Church as Jesus announced will happen through those who believe in Him in John 7:37-39?*

*3, Consider how Jesus walked with the Father in John 8:26,28,29. How can we learn to walk with the Father as Jesus did?*

Each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key insights and how they see themselves applying it to their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey**

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another**

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow, bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

*1, families to be protected and strengthened*

*2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*

*3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for all details to go well as we plan and build our Bible college and church facilities to serve the Lord and people.*

Close by thanking God together.



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### USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>

### SERMON OUTLINE

We study John chapters 7-8. We look at how the Feast of Tabernacles was celebrated during Jesus' time and the significance of the statements Jesus made of rivers of living water that will flow through those who believed in Him. Also, that He is the light of the world. We consider how Jesus addressed the situation of the scribes and Pharisees bringing a woman caught in adultery. We also observe how Jesus walked with the Father as His Son. And we consider Jesus most clear statement about His deity "before Abraham was, I AM". This sermon includes free audio (mp3) and video of this powerful, motivational, expository teaching, free printable PDF sermon outlines, sermon notes and small group study guide with discussion questions and presentation slides. All resources (sermon PDF, sermon MP3, sermon video, sermon presentation) are free for use in personal study, small groups, Bible study prayer groups, local churches, conferences, Bible colleges, etc.



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### KEYWORDS

Gospel of John, John Book Study, John chapters 7-8, the Father and the Son, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

### REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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