

LIFE GROUP notes

27 November

Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 27



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ?
2. Did God the Father testify to Jesus in a voice from heaven in v.28b? **(Yes, the voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it...")**
3. How will people be drawn to Jesus according to v.32? **(Jesus said; "when I am lifted up from earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.).**
4. What did Jesus mean with His statement in v.32? **(v.33; This Jesus said, signifying by what death He would die. Jesus died by crucifixion.).**



Let's go deeper

5. What Old Testament prophet did John quote in v.40? **(Isaiah 6:10.).**
6. What NB details does John tell us about the prophet Isaiah in v.41? **(Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about Him.).**
7. What was one of the reasons people did not believe Jesus according to v.43? **(They loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.).**
8. What was Jesus' primary purpose for coming to earth according to v.47? **(Jesus said; "and if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.").**



Let's apply this

9. John 12:32 – 33; "But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself. He said this to show the kind of death He was going to die." (NIV)

Jesus knew that He would die, and that He would die on a cross, lifted up from the earth. Jesus knew the painful and humiliating manner of His death, but still obeyed God's will. Through His death; God glorified Him to the highest place (see Philippians 2:7 – 11).

- Do you love the praise of men more than the praise of God?
- Can people see God's life in you when they spent time with you?
- Do you see Jesus as a Judge or Saviour? He came to save the world.

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 27 (Jesus the peaceable King).

Read: John 12:27 – 50

v.27 – 30; Jesus clearly sees His death as glorifying the Father, since, according to the Father's plan, Jesus' sacrificial death is necessary to atone for the sins of the whole world, and redeem men and women to fellowship with their Creator. The Father's audible voice confirms Jesus' words to the crowds and disciples who are present on this occasion. This is the third occasion in Jesus' ministry where the audible voice of God is heard (though the only one recorded by John). First, at His baptism (Matthew 3:17) and second, at His transfiguration (Matthew 17:5).

v.31 – 34; While Jesus' words about being lifted up refer initially to His being lifted up on the cross, His words seem to have a triple meaning: (1) being lifted up on the cross, (2) being raised or lifted up from the grave, and (3) being lifted up to heaven in the ascension. John speaks of Jesus' glorification and being lifted up in a way that includes the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension as a single event.

v.35 – 36; Jesus is saying to the crowd listening to Him: Put your trust in Me now, while I am still here. This way you will be "sons of light," that is, people who take on the nature of light themselves, by their faith in and emulation of Me, in the way that Jesus had said to His disciples, "You are the light of the world..." (Matt.5:14 – 16).

v.37 – 41; Isaiah's task is to preach God's word as a faithful witness, knowing that his preaching will have the effect of hardening the hearts of those who have set their hearts against God. In the same way, Jesus' teaching and miracles have a hardening effect on those who resist God.

v.42 – 43; John is talking about social pressure, ex-communication from the synagogue not physical punishment or execution. And John who himself was exiled for his faith to the island of Patmos (Rev. 1:9); is critical to those whose faith is not strong enough to stand during persecution. Christ is calling us to be faithful to Him.

v.44 – 46; Jesus speaks encouragement to those who hear and believe. For Jesus there is no separation between belief in the Son, and belief in the Father. If people really know the Father they will recognize and welcome the Son. Those who claim to believe, but refuse to walk in Jesus' teachings, deceive themselves if they think they are really Christ's followers.

v.47 – 50; Now Jesus turns from the blessings of the believer to warn those who hear and even understand, but do not follow Jesus' teachings. We keep Jesus' words and observe His teachings as an indicator that we believe in Him. Jesus did not come to judge people, but to save them.