

02 October

 Break the ice

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

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 20



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member that Jesus is greater than Abraham?
2. How did Jesus identify His disciples according to v.31? **(If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.)**
3. What will be the result or fruit of abiding in Jesus' Word according to v.32? **(Jesus said; "you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.")**
4. How does Jesus define satan in v.44? **(He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him.)**



Let's go deeper

5. Why is v.46; a remarkable claim to Jesus' sinlessness? **(Jesus asked everyone present to convict Him of sin, and there was no one.)**
6. What does Jesus promise those who believe in Him as God in v.52? **(Jesus said; "if anyone keeps My word, he shall never taste death.")**
7. What did Jesus answer when the Jews asked if He saw Abraham in v.58? **(Jesus said; "...I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.")**
8. How did the Jews respond to Jesus in v.59? **(Then they took up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.)**



Let's apply this

9. **John 8:58;** Jesus said to them, "most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."
 - Jesus' Word is truth, allow His Word to rule your life.
 - Jesus is perfect and sinless; let Him forgive your sins.
 - Jesus only gives eternal life; ask Him for eternal life.
 - Jesus is God eternal; let Him lead and guide your decisions.
 - Take some time this week to reflect on John 8:31 – 59, and allow Holy Spirit to lead you and reveal Jesus to you.

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 20 (Jesus's claims about Himself).

Read: John 8:31 – 59

v.31 – 32; If we will be Jesus' disciples, we must abide in His word. There is no other way. To be a follower of Jesus – the Word made flesh – is to abide (to live in, to dwell in, to make your home in) His word. The freedom Jesus spoke of doesn't come from just an academic pursuit of truth in general; but from abiding in His word and being His disciple.

v.33 – 36; The reaction of the religious leaders was not, "That is wonderful! Tell us more about what it means to be free by trusting in Your word." Instead, they reacted, we do not need this. We are good. Slavery to sin is the worst kind of slavery, because there is no escape from our self. A Son must set us free, and the Son of God sets us free and brings us into the household of God. Freedom does not consist in the word "freedom," or in words, but in relationship to Jesus Christ, through abiding in His Word, and being His disciple.

v.37 – 41; The religious leaders protested that Abraham was their true father. This was true in a genetic sense, but not in a spiritual sense. Jesus agreed they were descendants (John 8:37) of Abraham, but not children of Abraham because they sought to kill Jesus, when Abraham embraced Him.

v.42 – 43; Jesus again made the remarkable claim that He and His Father were and are so close in nature that if one truly lives as if God is their Father, they would also love Jesus. There is no room left for the person who says, "I love God but reject Jesus."

v.44 – 47; Jesus gives us some insight into the character of Satan. The lie is core to the devil's character, and he is the deceiver most dangerous of all – the deceiver who has deceived himself. Jesus gave His enemies an opportunity to declare sin in Him and they could not. This was another remarkable testimony to the sinlessness of Jesus Christ.

v.48 – 50; The enemies of Jesus were frustrated and unable to make Him look bad, and so, they launched their last attack: name-calling.

v.51 – 53; This is another remarkable claim that if Jesus is God, and is one with God the Father. Jesus promises eternal life to those who keep His word.

v.54 – 59; Jesus made another remarkable claim; Jesus claimed that not only was He greater than Abraham, but Abraham himself also acknowledged this; in Gen.22:8.