

Small Group Questions

Who do you say that I am?

What are some of your earliest memories or thoughts regarding Jesus? Share this with the Group.

Read John 7:1-13

1. The first blast of hostility against Jesus comes from his own family. How would you characterize the statements made by Jesus' brothers?

2. Why do you think Jesus waits to go to Jerusalem until after his brothers have left (v. 10)?

3. What counsel would you give a believer who faces spiritual opposition from his or her family?

4. Read John 7:14-52. When Jesus makes his presence known in Jerusalem, people begin to challenge the origin (and therefore, the authority) of his teaching. According to Jesus, how can we verify the truth of his teaching (v. 16-18)?

5. What other opinions or questions do people have about Jesus in verses 20-36? How does Jesus respond to each one?

6. On the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, large vats of water were poured out on the pavement of the temple court as a reminder of God's provision of water in the wilderness. With that custom in mind, how would you explain the significance of Jesus' remarks in verses 37-39?

To what extent has Christ been a continual source of spiritual refreshment for you?

7. Throughout the chapter John gives us a sampling of various reactions to Jesus. Identify some of the reactions of various people and explain why you think they reacted the way they did.

8. Which of the opinions, you have identified in this chapter, are still expressed today and in what way?

9. Based on Jesus' example, what should our response be to such opinions about and reactions toward Jesus?

Sit or kneel quietly before the Lord, and let him bring the refreshment of living water to your heart and mind.

Pray together

Now or Later

Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit several times in the Gospel of John. If you have access to a Bible concordance, look up the word Spirit and read each reference in John. Summarize what each passage teaches about the Spirit's ministry. Here are a few passages to get you started: John 3:5-8; 6:63; 14:25-27; 16:12-14.