

BOOK OF JOHN // WK 11

PASTOR NOTE: Spend less time on the first three and really push point four. This week is definitely more teaching than preaching so encourage students to take notes.

Intro // Hey Faith Students! Open your Bibles to John 5:18

Illustration // Have you ever heard someone with a name or nickname that didn't fit them? Share a personal moment of when that happened to you.

- The truth is there are some names that just don't seem to fit and in this passage we get some names and qualities of Jesus that most of us are not really familiar with.

Scripture // John 5:16-24

- You've heard of Jesus the Way, Jesus the Healer, Jesus the Truth, but tonight we will walk through names we don't usually hear.

1. Jesus The Equal (Equal to the Father)

- Scripture // Vs 16-18
 - The Jews continually persecuted Jesus because He was healing on the Sabbath. (When you are so caught up in religion, you can miss the miracles of Jesus right in front of you)
 - Jesus says 'my father' is working so I am working.
 - This triggered the Jews because He basically was saying He has the same authority as God the Father.
- I think in our theology we can get it wrong in thinking there is a pecking order with the Trinity.
- We can think God the Father is calling all the shots, Jesus the Son is the assistant, and the Holy Spirit is the intern.
- Truth Notes
 - Jesus is God.
 - God is a Triune God.
 - God has no weaker parts.
 - If Jesus was less powerful and mighty then we couldn't be God.
 - The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit all have different roles, but all equal.
 - Jesus was, is, and forever will be equal with the Father
 - John 1:1-2 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

2. Jesus The Dependent

- Illustration // Share a story of when you were dependent on something or someone (something funny or silly, maybe a video game or food or old friend).
 - In our society the word dependent is looked down upon because it is a badge of honor to be looked at as independent but Jesus flips the script on us.
- Scripture // Vs 19-20

- Jesus uses an analogy of a son learning a trade from a father in his language.
- In these verses we see that Jesus says he can do nothing of His own accord.
- We see in scripture that Jesus constantly is pulling away to speak to God the father to stay in one accord. (This is an awesome display of how our lives should look. If Jesus had to pull away and align himself, how much more should we?)
- See Jesus dependency is not weakness, it's strength.
- **Illustration // Have you ever been in conflict with yourself? Like your heart is saying one thing, your mind is saying another, your body is feeling a completely different way, and don't even bring in your stomach!**
 - See as humans, our conflict within ourselves is a weakness.
 - But the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Work In Unity And there is no conflict. There is no weakness.
 - The trinity is dependent on each other and in unity with each other always. This is the nature and characteristic of God to choose unity.

3. Jesus The Life Giver

- **Scripture // Vs 21**
 - Jesus says the same way the father gives life I give life as well.
 - This is the good news:
 - The Father
 - **Gen 2:7 - Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.**
 - The Son
 - **Rom 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**
 - The Spirit
 - **Rom 8:2 - You are now controlled by the law of the Holy Spirit who gives you life.**
- How many are glad we have been given life through God?

4. Jesus The Judge

- **Scripture // Vs 22-24**
 - Jesus says some insightful and profound things!
 - Jesus says all judgment has been given to Him.
- **Application //**
 - In our society judging has a bad connotation to it. It leaves a bad taste in peoples mouths.
 - And to make an excuse for doing whatever we want we say only God can judge me. But this scripture is saying judgment is the Lords and one day you will have to stand before Him. That's scary...
 - Judging can sometimes be looked at as hateful. So how can God be a God of love and still be a God of judgment?
- **Illustration //**

- Imagine there are two childhood friends but life has them go in different directions. For one of them he goes to law school and works his way up the ranks to be the most powerful judge in all the land. For the other, he chooses a life of crime and is a notorious thug. One day, the judge comes in and is shaken. On trial is his childhood friend accused and guilty of doing a crime that has large penalties and consequences. The judge has a decision to make: does he let his old friend go or does he do his job and persecute him to the fullest? (What would you do?)
- The judge knows what needs to be done. He charges his friends with the full penalty and the debt he owes is impossible to pay! But then the judge does something no one would have guessed. He stepped down from his seat of power, he took off his robes of authority, took out his checkbook, and paid his friend's debt in full. Not only that but he takes his friend in, shows him, and guides him in a life worth living.
 - See, this story is similar to our story with God. In the garden with Adam and Eve there was unity between man and God. But because of sin it caused a rift in our relationship with him. He says that the wages or the payment of sin is death. God being the perfect judge cannot lift that sentence of sin from us. So what does he do? He sends his only begotten son who made himself humbled and lowly to pay the debt that we owed. And like the story it could've ended there but but God goes a step further. Not only does he pay the debt of sin and gives us new life, but he also sends us the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us into A life worth living. Thank you Jesus that you are a loving judge.

Altar //

- Salvation
- Something Reflective