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4. In vv. 31-40, Jesus answers the Jewish opposition by pointing to other testimonies to his identity and divinity. What/who are they and why do you think he takes pains to point them out?

5. What does Jesus say are the real reasons for people rejecting him and these witnesses, in vv. 41-47?

6. What warning does Jesus give in this section?

7. Why does Jesus' teaching here matter for you and for others? How has God been teaching you specifically through this passage?

4. What parallels to the Israelites' time in the wilderness and to the Exodus do we find in these events, in vv.1-21? Why are the parallels significant and how do these two signs add to your understanding of what Jesus came to do?

5. Track and identify the Jew's motives and their attitudes to Jesus throughout the passage. How do you see some of these same attitudes in our own culture? In your own life?

6. How do Jesus' words in vv. 35-40 relate to the earlier parts of the chapter?

7. Note some of the many wonderful promises in this passage. Which do you find of particular help to you?

4. According to Jesus, what is the part of:

- God the Father, the Son and the Spirit in the work of rescue?

- Us?

5. Jesus expands his teaching about the 'bread of heaven' in this passage. How does it add to our understanding of what Jesus has come to do? How is this related to the forthcoming Passover feast? (See Exodus 12:1-30 for Passover reference)

6. Grumbling or muttering, even 'taking offense'(v43, 60-61) seem to be a common thread in this passage. What do you think is at the heart of it and what is Jesus' response to the grumbling?

7. What does this passage teach us about genuine discipleship?

Study 14 - John 7:1-52

The Feast of Tabernacles (or Booths) dominates chapters 7-10. It was a joyful 8-day harvest festival, when all Israel came together in Jerusalem, camping in booths to remember Israel's time in the wilderness during God's rescue of them. During the festival the themes of water and light play an important role.

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

3. Establish the context: (What comes immediately before and directly after this text? How does it influence the meaning of this text? Is this passage part of a larger section of teaching?)

4. List the different reactions to Jesus found in chapter 7.

5. How are Jesus' words in verse 7 demonstrated in vv. 11-31? Be specific.

6. How does Jesus use the context in which he speaks (the last day of the Feast of the Tabernacles) to teach more clearly about his mission? (for more insight in vv. 37-39 see Isaiah 44:3)

7. How should this passage inform our evangelism?

4. As Jesus continues his teaching during the Feast of Tabernacles, he restates **(a.)** his divine origin and purpose in vv. 13-20 and **(b.)** his divine mission and destiny in vv. 21-30. Summarize these things. Why do you think he continues to speak so often about them?

a.

b.

5. What themes from earlier chapters are seen again in this passage?

6. Jesus uses his 'witness-bearing Father' as part of his defense. How does this make sense?

7. What challenges me in this passage? What gives me encouragement?

4. List the distinctive characteristics of the two families that Jesus describes in vv. 31-59.

5. Try to restate Jesus' offer in vv. 31-32 in your own words.

6. In what ways does Jesus shock the Jews in vs. 31-59?

7. How do these things challenge us?

4. Contrast the attitudes of the man born blind and the Jews (even his parents), after the miracle.

5. What correlation does Jesus make between the 'works of God' and the 'word of God'?

6. What do you think Jesus meant by v.39 "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."?

7. How does this sight-healing miracle (Jesus' 6th sign in John's gospel) strengthen our understanding of what Jesus' mission is?