

Sunday, 09-17-2023

2023-2024 Fall Quarter
Unit I: "Love Completes, Law Falls Short"

Jesus Gives God Glory
Bible Background: John 7:14-24
Printed Text: John 7:14-24 KJV/NIV
Devotional Reading: Psalm 119:113-128

Prayer: *Dear Lord, thank You for Your Son, Jesus, who gave His life that we may have eternal life. Now help us follow the law of love so that we can be a blessing to those in need. We desire to be selfless and trustworthy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen*

Unifying Lesson Principle:

1. We expect our leaders to tell the truth, but sometimes they distort the facts. ***How can we decide who is trustworthy?***
Jesus told the crowds to judge the truth of His words by the fact that His teaching was not self-serving but, instead, directed all glory to God.
 - a. Attitude, actions, and behavior come from the heart. Trust comes from faith in the Father. When combined, the Holy Spirit will reveal who's for or against God (**Philippians 2:1-11; James 2:8-20**).
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Lesson Objectives:

1. Give a rationale for Jesus' argument that "those who speak on their own glory."
 2. Cultivate a desire for truth. – **Proverbs 6:16-19; 1 John 4:20-21**
 3. Identify leaders in our own time who seek to glorify God.
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Devotional Reading: Saturday: God, Teach Us Your Statutes – **Psalm 119:113-128**

- God's word is the only thing that can uphold me in times of troubles. Obedience to His word enables me to take a stand against my oppressors. The more I serve with a humble heart, the more understanding and mercy I receive.
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Exposition and Application of the Scripture: Sunday – Jesus Speaks to Glorify the Father – **John 7:14-24**

A. The Reception of the Savior (vv. 14-15) – Luke 2:41-52; Romans 10:14-17

- I must be attentive to the man of God. Formal education isn't absolute if the Holy Spirit is leading me. Am I more convicted by the Word of God or the traditions of men? To follow Jesus' example, I must be at the house of God as often as possible to grow in His doctrine. God's credentials supersede that of man.

B. The Response from the Savior (vv. 16-18) – Matthew 23:13-33

- The preached word must agree with the Bible and point others to do His will. Lack of connection with God hinders the Holy Spirit to work through me. Am I setting an example like that of Jesus or myself? I can't do what I don't know, but can't let ignorance be an excuse (**Proverbs 3:1-7**).

C. The Reflecting of the Savior (vv. 19-20) – John 5:39-47

- Don't get excited about something I can't commit to. Jesus chose love over law thirty-seven (37) on the Sabbath. Have confidence in my relationship with Jesus Christ where the nay sayers won't become stumbling blocks. Most who judge base it on outward appearance (what they see) and not in truth (God's word). Am I professing God's word that I can't keep? Breaking the Law for personal gain reflects hate for the Lord.

D. The Reaction toward the Savior (vv. 21-24)

- Why does healing create controversy? My mind and heart must be in alignment with God's word. If God gets the glory He deserves, all good deeds are created equal. My personal relationship with Jesus Christ measures my righteousness, not outward religious performances (**Deuteronomy 1:16-18**). Am I being a ravenous wolf with a religious appearance (**Matthew 7:15-20; Acts 20:28-35**)?