



## Sermon Series: John - The Word of Life - Part 13

**Message:** "Make A Choice"

**Text:** John 5:16-30

**Date:** 01/30/2022

★ John's purpose for writing was to connect people to Jesus! (John 20:30-31)

### John 5:1-15 - RECAP

- Jesus healed a disabled man and commanded him to pick up his mat and walk
- Jewish religious leaders were not happy because it was against the law to carry anything on the Sabbath
- Jesus could have healed this man on any day of the week, but He *chose* the Sabbath

### John 5:16-18

- Jesus was healing many people on the Sabbath - it's something He continually did
- "persecute" is in the plural form, meaning the religious leaders continuously followed Jesus around persecuting Him
- They were trying to *kill* Jesus!
  - John 8:44 - their father is Satan
- God is ALWAYS at work (example: Isaiah 29:23)
- The works of God the Father and Jesus are the same!
  - Jesus is claiming to *be* God
- John 1:11 - God's own people didn't recognize Him

### John 5:19-30

- "judgment" = "condemnation" (compare with John 3:16-18)
- Jesus is given authority to judge
- "the dead" = those spiritually dead AND the future resurrection
  - "a time is coming" (future resurrection)
  - "a time has now come" (those spiritually dead)
- "Son of Man" - comes from Daniel 7:13-14
- Exodus 34:6-7 - God is loving AND just - He does not let the guilty go unpunished
  - Jesus died for our sins so that we can live if we choose to put our faith and trust in Him

**Good Question to Ask:** What would it take for you to believe?

## Discussion Questions:

1. **READ Luke 16:19-31.** Now check out who Jesus was telling this story to (Luke 16:14-15). Consider those hearing Jesus' story, the rich man, and the rich man's brothers - What were their issues that kept them from God?
2. What is it about our hearts that can prevent us from really *living* our faith in Jesus?
3. **READ Acts 4:1-22.** What are some similarities in the story about this passage and our passage from John 5:16-30? (There's several!)
4. **Continuing Acts 4:1-22** - Why do you think some people believed the message of Jesus (Acts 4:4)? Why does it matter to the religious leaders that Peter and John were healing people in the name of Jesus? What do you think it would take for the religious leaders to believe in Jesus?
5. **Continuing Acts 4:1-22** - Consider how Peter and John responded to the religious leaders. Is there anything in our own culture today where we would need to take a stand for our faith in Jesus like they did? (Consider the fact that any stance we take for our faith ought to be in line with God's Word and His heart rather than our own personal preferences)

---

## Recommended Resources:

### Books:

- *NIV Faithlife Illustrated Study Bible*, christianbook.com, <https://bit.ly/3kxieXw>
- *Brief Insights on Mastering Bible Study*, by Dr. Michael Heiser

### YouTube Videos:

- Overview: John 1-12, by Bible Project
- Overview: John 13-21, by Bible Project