



## **Sermon Series: John - The Word of Life - Part 37**

**Message:** “Who do we Trust?”

**Text:** John 11:45-57

**Date:** 09/11/2022

- ★ John’s purpose for writing was to connect people to Jesus! (John 20:30-31)
- ★ John was writing to Jewish Christians being kicked out of their synagogues (John 9:22)

**Luke 9:23** - Jesus says, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”

### **John 11:45-57**

- Let’s define some terms:
  - **Jewish Religious Leaders:** Pharisees; Sadducees; Chief Priests; Scribes.  
Some religious leaders had the authority to judge Jews on the local level
  - **The Sanhedrin:** The supreme Jewish ruling council, based in Jerusalem. They had the authority to judge Jews at the highest level
  - **High Priest:** Head of the Sanhedrin
- (v47) “What are we accomplishing?” = “What are we doing about this?”
- **(v48) they were worried about losing their social status**
  - “our temple” = “our place” (also implies social status and authority)
- (v49) Caiaphas = the High Priest at the time
- (v49) “You know nothing at all!” = “You’ve got no clue!”
- (v51-52) John’s theological insight; describes the gospel message of Jesus
- (v53) The official decision to have Jesus killed has been made
- (v57) Standing orders to report the location of Jesus for His arrest

**Main Point:** The religious leaders weren’t really trusting God because they didn’t recognize Him (John 1:10-11) [see also Luke 7:20-22]

**Consider This:** What gets in the way of us trusting Jesus? And when things aren’t going our way, how do we react?

## - Going Deeper -

For individual or small group study

1. What are some ways in which you have learned (or are learning) to trust Jesus?
2. **READ Psalm 145.** Considering this is a Psalm from David, (someone who famously sinned against the LORD, and someone who knows what it's like when their life is in danger) how do these words bring comfort to your life? What truths about God's faithfulness and love can we learn from this passage?
3. **READ Job 1:1-22.** If what happened to Job happened to you, how would you react? How do you think Job managed to trust God despite the tragedy he's experiencing?
4. **READ Job 2:1-13.** Should God be blamed for what happened to Job? Should there be *any* blame?
5. **Practical application:** Some people feel that God is a monster for allowing Job to suffer and therefore see their own suffering as God's fault. How might you respond to someone that blames God for the abuse and suffering they have experienced? How can we trust Jesus in our suffering?
6. **READ Luke 9:21-26.** Why does Jesus command His followers to "deny themselves"? (Note: "denying" yourself is what it means to "take up your cross") How does this message contrast with the message of the world? What are some things in your life that's been hard to let go as you follow Jesus?

### Recommended Resources

- *NIV Faithlife Illustrated Study Bible*, christianbook.com, <https://bit.ly/3kxieXw>
- "Overview: John 1-12" by Bible Project, search on YouTube