

## Gospel of John Chapter 7

Memory verse: **John 6:35**

**“Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger and he who believes in Me will never thirst.’”**

*John 7(ESV)*

After these things Jesus was walking in Galilee, for He was unwilling to walk in Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him. <sup>2</sup>Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near. <sup>3</sup>Therefore His brothers said to Him, “Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing. <sup>4</sup>For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be *known* publicly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.” <sup>5</sup>For not even His brothers were believing in Him. <sup>6</sup>So Jesus \*said to them, “My time is not yet here, but your time is always opportune. <sup>7</sup>The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it, that its deeds are evil. <sup>8</sup>Go up to the feast yourselves; I do not go up to this feast because My time has not yet fully come.” <sup>9</sup>Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee.

<sup>10</sup>But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as if, in secret. <sup>11</sup>So the Jews were seeking Him at the feast and were saying, “Where is He?” <sup>12</sup>There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some were saying, “He is a good man”; others were saying, “No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray.” <sup>13</sup>Yet no one was speaking openly of Him for fear of the Jews.

<sup>14</sup>But when it was now the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and *began to* teach. <sup>15</sup>The Jews then were astonished, saying, “How has this man become learned, having never been educated?” <sup>16</sup>So Jesus answered them and said, “My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. <sup>17</sup>If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or *whether* I speak from Myself. <sup>18</sup>He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

<sup>19</sup>“Did not Moses give you the Law, and *yet* none of you carries out the Law? Why do you seek to kill Me?” <sup>20</sup>The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who seeks to

kill You?" <sup>21</sup> Jesus answered them, "I did one deed, and you all marvel. <sup>22</sup> For this reason Moses has given you circumcision (not because it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and on *the* Sabbath you circumcise a man. <sup>23</sup> If a man receives circumcision on *the* Sabbath so that the Law of Moses will not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on *the* Sabbath? <sup>24</sup> Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

<sup>25</sup> So some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, "Is this not the man whom they are seeking to kill? <sup>26</sup> Look, He is speaking publicly, and they are saying nothing to Him. The rulers do not really know that this is the Christ, do they? <sup>27</sup> However, we know where this man is from; but whenever the Christ may come, no one knows where He is from."<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "You both know Me and know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. <sup>29</sup> I know Him, because I am from Him, and He sent Me." <sup>30</sup> So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.<sup>31</sup> But many of the crowd believed in Him; and they were saying, "When the Christ comes, He will not perform more signs than those which this man has, will He?"

<sup>32</sup> The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about Him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to seize Him.<sup>33</sup> Therefore Jesus said, "For a little while longer I am with you, then I go to Him who sent Me. <sup>34</sup> You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come." <sup>35</sup> The Jews then said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find Him? He is not intending to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks, is He?"<sup>36</sup> What is this statement that He said, 'You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come'?"

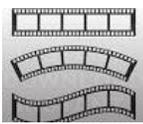
<sup>37</sup> Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup> He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" <sup>39</sup> But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

<sup>40</sup> *Some* of the people therefore, when they heard these words, were saying, "This certainly is the Prophet." <sup>41</sup> Others were saying, "This is the Christ." Still others were saying, "Surely the Christ is not going to come from Galilee, is He? <sup>42</sup> Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from

Bethlehem, the village where David was?" <sup>43</sup>So a division occurred in the crowd because of Him. <sup>44</sup>Some of them wanted to seize Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

<sup>45</sup>The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" <sup>46</sup>The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks." <sup>47</sup>The Pharisees then answered them, "You have not also been led astray, have you?"<sup>48</sup>No one of the rulers or Pharisees has believed in Him, has he? <sup>49</sup>But this crowd which does not know the Law is accursed."

<sup>50</sup>Nicodemus (he who came to Him before, being one of them) \*said to them, <sup>51</sup>"Our Law does not judge a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing, does it?" <sup>52</sup>They answered him, "You are not also from Galilee, are you? Search, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee."<sup>53</sup> [Everyone went to his home.



**Scene it**

1. **Summary** of Events: Write down what happened in each scene of this chapter and how it relates to the theme of the book.

Scene	Passage	Location	Characters	What Happened?
17	7:1-9			
18	7:10-13			
19	7:14-36			
20	7:37-58			

2. It is important to notice recurring themes throughout a literary work. This is not different for Biblical narratives. The author is developing themes and motifs throughout this gospel. What information is revealed about the *signs* which Jesus performed and about *belief*?

Signs/works:

Believe (any form of the word)

Other repeated words:

3. Do you learn anything about **God the Father** or the **Holy Spirit** in Chapter 7? Write it below.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What do you observe about our Lord, **Jesus Christ**?
  - a. What do you learn about His *character*?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. How does he interact with *people*?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. How does Jesus conduct *ministry*?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - d. Are any titles of Jesus mentioned?

5. There is much dialogue about people's beliefs about Jesus. Take a green highlighter and mark each people group in Chapter 7 who had something to say about Jesus. What were the different people groups saying about Jesus, and what does this say about their faith?

People Group 1:

People Group 2:

People Group 3:

People Group 4:

People Group 5:

People Group 6:

People Group 7:

## The Significance of the Last Day of the Feast of Tabernacles

Jesus often used the physical to transition spiritual realities. Here is yet another example in John 7:37-38. Jesus rose up and cried out,

“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. <sup>38</sup>He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’”

This is hard to understand without understanding the tradition of the Feast of Tabernacles of the Jews. Here is some information from MacArthur Bible Commentary to help you understand this significant event.

“A tradition grew up in the few centuries before Jesus that on the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles, a golden container filled with water from the pool of Siloam was carried in procession by the high priest back to the temple. As the procession came to the Watergate on the south side of the inner temple court, three trumpet blasts were made to mark the joy of the occasion and the people recited Isaiah 12:3, “With joy you shall draw water from the wells of salvation.” At the temple while onlookers watched, the priests would march around the altar with the water container while the temple choir sang the Hallel (Psalms 113-118). The water was offered in sacrifice to God at the time of the morning sacrifice. The use of the water symbolized the blessing of adequate rainfall for crops. Jesus used this event as an object lesson and opportunity to make a very public invitation on the last day of the feast for His people to accept Him as the living water.

6. Read Isaiah 55: 1-7. How is the invitation of Isaiah 55 reflective of Jesus’ invitation in John 7?

GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION



7. What did you learn as a result of spending time in John 7? How will you apply this?

8. Write the following verses below or on the back of your paper:

John 20:30-31:

John 3:35-36:

John 6:35:



9. Create an artistic expression of this chapter (ie. prayer, poem, picture, acrostic, etc.).