

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of March 13, 2016

This Week's Focus: When the gospel comes into your life, when God's love and grace have you captivated and you begin to see, embrace, and treasure Christ above all earthly treasures, then you will display God's glory and reject the evil and false notion of self-glory.

This Week's Text: John 7:1-18

"Faith at its very essence is the abandonment of self and a humble acceptance and gladness of the God of mercy and grace...The mark of truth is God-exaltation, not self-exaltation." **John Piper**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's sermon?
- What is the setting at the beginning of John 7? What is the Feast of Booths/Tabernacles?
- Why were the Jewish leaders seeking to kill Jesus? Reference John 5:18. What was at the heart of their anger/bitterness toward Jesus in verse 15? Reference John 7:18. Is there unrepentant anger or bitterness in your heart?
- Why did Jesus' brothers encourage him to showcase his power to the world? Why would they want him to do this, especially since they did not believe in him? What controlled their thoughts, intentions, and plans? What is worldliness/secularism?
- How did Jesus' answer his brothers? What did Jesus mean by the words, "My time has not yet fully come"? How can we live for God's glory in this world without falling into legalism or worldliness?
- Why did the people at the feast keep their conversations about Jesus secretive? Reference verse 13. Why did they fear the Jewish leaders? What is the difference between negative fear and positive fear?
- Read verses 16-18. By whose authority was Jesus teaching? Whose glory did he joyfully promote, even as he submitted himself to the cross?
- How does the passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?