

HOME GROUPS

study guide

topic: bold as Jesus

scripture: john 7:1-24

points for review

- Jesus is a murder target for healing on the Sabbath.
- The feast of booths is a celebration of ingathering of the harvest.
- Jesus' brothers want Jesus to show Himself as Messiah...and they want proof.
- Jesus is keenly aware of God's timing & will for His life.
- There were different views of Jesus in the crowds at the feast... and He was the topic of discussion.
- Fear of the Jews suppresses, oppresses, and silences the crowds with regard to Jesus.
- Jesus, because of His attunement with God the Father, has the audacity to begin teaching the crowds.
- Jesus proclaims Himself as a God-sent prophet.

questions for discussion

- Why are the Jews trying to kill Jesus, and what is the feast of booths?

The Jews are trying to kill Jesus because of His healing of a lame man on the Sabbath day (John 5). The feast of booths is a celebration of the ingathering of the harvest, where the Israelite people stay in booths for a week to commemorate God's providence of food in the desert.

- Why doesn't Jesus go to the feast of booths, as His brothers wish?

It is not yet His appointed time...His *kairos*. He is waiting for God's time before He acts on His own accord.

- What does Jesus mean by verse 7, "the world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil"?

He means precisely what He says: the world is rebellious, and reluctant to take on the demands of Jesus for everything to be in subject to Him.

- Talk about the contrast between the Jewish leaders and Jesus.
How do they control the crowd?

The Jewish leaders lead via authority and control through fear. Jesus controls by His presence and astounding teaching and display of grace.

- Where does the audacity of Jesus come from? He's speaking in a crowd that contains people who want to murder Him!

The audacity of Jesus flows out of His relationship with His Father. Because He knows that God has appointed the time, then He is comfortable in acting boldly before the crowds...even the people seeking to kill Him.

questions for reflection

- Do you fearfully live in religion, or boldly in the Gospel?
- Do you fight to maintain law-keeping, or fight to follow the Law-keeper?
- Do you cling to our righteous works or to the works of Jesus?

**be sure to discuss a Halloween service project
pray for one another & dismiss to fellowship**