

# 04/19/20 Sermon Notes

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Part of Just Getting Started A series on the Gospel of John  
April 17, 2020

## Message: The Right Time

### Series: Just Getting Started

Recap: We're in the 13th week of this series on the Gospel of John. Written by one of many Johns in Scripture, this was the disciple who Jesus loved. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are synoptic gospels (they are similar in structure and content) but John is different. He wrote his gospel to the world, to you. John tells the story of Jesus' life, ministry, death, resurrection, and it tells the story that through Jesus, you're Just Getting Started!

We have a lot of 'crossover' experiences in life, our lives are full of them (crossover from student to employee, from single to married, from no kids to parenting). Some are more significant than others. Some are more life changing than others. Some crossovers are good and some are bad. Today's message is about the ultimate crossover!

## Background

Jesus is the promised Messiah who came to save the world.

- Messiah comes from a Hebrew word that means anointed one
- Jesus was a priest and king

It's all about timing

- If it isn't the right time, it's the wrong time
- If it isn't the wrong time, it's the right time

Review of geography

- Jesus was born in Bethlehem (Judea)
- Jesus lived in Nazareth (Galilee)

### ***John 7:1-9 (NLT)***

1 After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of

Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting His death.

2 But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters,

3 and Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see Your miracles!

4 You can't become famous if You hide like this! If You can do such wonderful things, show Yourself to the world!"

5 For even His brothers didn't believe in Him.

6 Jesus replied, "Now is not the right time for Me to go, but you can go anytime.

7 The world can't hate you, but it does hate Me because I accuse it of doing evil.

8 You go on. I'm not going to this festival, because My time has not yet come."

9 After saying these things, Jesus remained in Galilee.

### Festival of Shelters

- Aka Feast of Booths (Tents) or Feast of Tabernacles
- Every male within 15 miles of Jerusalem was legally bound to attend
- One of 3 great Jewish feasts (Tabernacles, Passover, Pentecost)
- Has been called the most holy and greatest of all feasts
- Devout Jews lived a week outside in tents made of tree branches as a reminder that God provided for their ancestors in the desert, signifying God dwells with His people

- John 7:5 reveals that Jesus' brothers DIDN'T BELIEVE in Him

Jesus simply tells them - it's not the right time (v6) and more directly, My time has not yet come (v8) implying there will be a time when He will go to Jerusalem.

### ***John 7:10 (NLT)***

But after his brothers left for the festival, Jesus also went, though secretly, staying out of public view.

- Jesus went to the festival in SECRET

## **Groups in the Public Debate**

### **Group 1: The Jewish Leaders**

### ***John 7:11-13 (NLT)***

11 The Jewish leaders tried to find him at the festival and kept asking if anyone had seen him.

12 There was a lot of grumbling about him among the crowds. Some argued, "He's a good man," but others said, "He's nothing but a fraud who deceives the people."

13 But no one had the courage to speak favorably about him in public, for they were afraid of getting in trouble with the Jewish leaders.

*People attack the character of others, often without reason. I want you to see something... ignorance fuels opposition! What you don't know CAN hurt you, especially if you allow what you don't know to influence your thoughts... words... actions...*

*Someone once wrote, "History reveals that the religious system often persecutes the very prophets of God who are sent to save it."*

*Jesus was there as the Messiah... as the Savior... but they were trying to kill him... they were missing the fact he was there to help them, and they were trying to kill him because of their ignorance.*

*—Pastor Chad*

This was a character debate against Jesus.

- No one had the COURAGE to stand up for Jesus (v13)

## **Group 2: The People (who came to Jerusalem for the festival)**

### ***John 7:14-18 (NLT)***

14 Then, midway through the festival, Jesus went up to the Temple and began to teach.

15 The people were surprised when they heard him. "How does he know so much when he hasn't been trained?" they asked.

16 So Jesus told them, "My message is not my own; it comes from God who sent me.

17 Anyone who wants to do the will of God will know whether my teaching is from God or is merely my own.

18 Those who speak for themselves want glory only for themselves, but a person who seeks to honor the one who sent him speaks truth, not lies.

The debate transitioned to a doctrinal debate.

- Doctrine means a belief or set of beliefs held and taught
- In our modern society doctrine isn't the focus, but doctrine should be, doctrine matters

### ***John 7:19-24 (NLT)***

19 Moses gave you the law, but none of you obeys it! In fact, you are trying to kill me.”

20 The crowd replied, “You’re demon possessed! Who’s trying to kill you?”

21 Jesus replied, “I did one miracle on the Sabbath, and you were amazed.

22 But you work on the Sabbath, too, when you obey Moses’ law of circumcision. (Actually, this tradition of circumcision began with the patriarchs, long before the law of Moses.)

23 For if the correct time for circumcising your son falls on the Sabbath, you go ahead and do it so as not to break the law of Moses. So why should you be angry with me for healing a man on the Sabbath?

24 Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly.”

### **Group 3: Jews Who Lived in Jerusalem**

#### ***John 7:25-29 (NLT)***

25 Some of the people who lived in Jerusalem started to ask each other, “Isn’t this the man they are trying to kill?

26 But here he is, speaking in public, and they say nothing to him. Could our leaders possibly believe that he is the Messiah?

27 But how could he be? For we know where this man comes from. When the Messiah comes, he will simply appear; no one will know where he comes from.”

28 While Jesus was teaching in the Temple, he called out, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I come from. But I’m not here on my own. The one who sent me is true, and you don’t know him.

29 But I know him because I come from him, and he sent me to you.”

*The people think Jesus is from Nazareth in Galilee, but he’s telling them - I’m not from here - I’m from heaven, and even though you’re seeing me, I want you to see God in me!*

—Pastor Chad

**John 7:30-36 (NLT)**

30 Then the leaders tried to arrest him; but no one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come.

31 Many among the crowds at the Temple believed in him. “After all,” they said, “would you expect the Messiah to do more miraculous signs than this man has done?”

32 When the Pharisees heard that the crowds were whispering such things, they and the leading priests sent Temple guards to arrest Jesus.

33 But Jesus told them, “I will be with you only a little longer. Then I will return to the one who sent me.

34 You will search for me but not find me. And you cannot go where I am going.”

35 The Jewish leaders were puzzled by this statement. “Where is he planning to go?” they asked. “Is he thinking of leaving the country and going to the Jews in other lands? Maybe he will even teach the Greeks!

36 What does he mean when he says, ‘You will search for me but not find me,’ and ‘You cannot go where I am going?’”

No one laid a hand on Jesus (they may have tried, but they failed) all because “His time had not yet come” - it wasn’t the right time!

- v30 - they tried to arrest Jesus - fail - it’s all about timing

- v32 - they tried to arrest Jesus - fail - it’s all about timing

In vv.33-34 Jesus tells them about the future, a time when He will be leaving them and specifically tells them - they can’t go where He is going.

*It’s all about timing. Jesus was going to answer their questions, in fact he already had, they were so focused on killing him, they missed it. Nothing they did worked. They couldn’t arrest Jesus because it wasn’t the right time!*

—Pastor Chad

**John 7:37-39 (NLT)**

37 On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, “Anyone who is thirsty may come to me!

38 Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures

declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.'"

39 (When he said "living water," he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)

Jesus steps up and tells them, it's time you hear the truth! Jesus starts talking about water.

- Living water
- God's Holy Spirit

*Jesus is telling them - you're craving something you can't find on this earth. You're thirsty yet nothing you drink will satisfy your thirst. You can search, but you'll never find what you're looking for on this side of heaven. If you're thirsty... come to me! And if you come to me... you can drink water from my fountain! And once there, you'll never thirst again!*

—Pastor Chad

- v44 - they tried to arrest Jesus - fail - it's all about timing

## **Nicodemus Questions the Leaders**

Nicodemus asked how the religious leaders could convict Jesus without a hearing. Their response, Jesus is from Nazareth (Galilee)... no prophet ever comes from Galilee! Nathanael said in John 1:46, "nothing good comes from Nazareth."

Jesus didn't come from Nazareth... Galilee... Jesus came from heaven! He is God!

It's all about timing. The time is now. The religious leaders let their time run out and never believed in Jesus. It's your turn to believe in Jesus, trust in Him so much, you follow Him from this day forward. It's the right time!