

**Equality with God**  
**John 5:16-27**  
**Al Gascon | September 24, 2023**

*Jesus is both the representation and manifestation of God. He is the final and complete revelation of God. Indeed, he is God in human flesh. That was his claim, and the unanimous testimony of scripture. To think anything less of him is blasphemy, and gives evidence of a mind blinded by Satan.*

— John MacArthur

*John 5:16-27*

- ⇒ Jesus declared himself equal with God in terms of his work, authority, power, role as humanity's judge, to be the source of life and have the power to raise the dead.

*John 10:22-33*

- ⇒ Jesus has the same power to protect his flock as the father does, because he and the father are one.
- ⇒ Jesus was not to be stoned because of his behavior or actions. It was the claims he made in relation to God which caused his opponents to pick up their stones.

*John 12:44-46*

- ⇒ Jesus claimed not believing in him is the same as not believing in the father. Jesus also declared anyone can see the father by simply looking at him.

**Small Group Discussion Questions**

- a. Would you feel as protected in regards to your eternal life if Jesus was not God? Meaning, if Jesus was a man or an angel would you feel 100% safe and protected in his hands?
- b. What would life be like if God couldn't work for all of his creation (not just earth) on Saturday?
- c. What do you believe God to be like if we can see him when we see Jesus?
- d. Does Jesus, as your eternal judge and source of eternal life, give you more encouragement since he was God and experienced life in man's shoes?
- e. How would you feel if your eternal judgment was determined by a prophet of God? Meaning, how would you feel about your eternal judge being a mere created being – that falls short of the Glory of God, just like you?