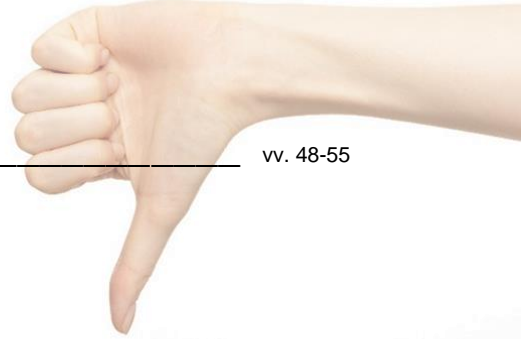


When Up is Down




“ How to Navigate God's Truth in Today's Culture ”



1. Keep Sharing it with Others



vv. 48-55



2. Let it Expose the Motives of Others

vv. 56-59

Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).**

HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/ or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

Point #1

- Read John 8:48-55. How did the religious leaders try to redefine Jesus and who He claimed to be? Be specific.
- How did Jesus respond? How does this relate to Point #1? What are some examples of this taking place today?
- How can Point #1 apply? In what way does this challenge your current approach? What steps will you take to change?

Point #2

- Read John 8:56-59. How did the religious leaders respond to Jesus and His "I am" statement? Why?
- In what way could they have responded differently? What did their response highlight about their motive?
- How does Point #2 highlight the truth of Point #1? How can you be tempted away from Point #2? What needs to adjust?

Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons.

MONDAY // Read John 8:48-52, 4:12-15

- What was Jesus trying to teach these religious leaders about living and dying? Be specific.
- How did their response highlight a lack of spiritual awareness? How did the woman at the well reveal the same thing?
- What does this also reveal about a non-Christian's perspective regarding spiritual matters? How does this help you?

TUESDAY // Read John 8:48-55, 5:21-29, Psalm 119:105, 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- What does John 5:21-29 reveal about John 8:48-55? (i.e., repeating himself) Why is this important to recognize?
- In what way does this relate to Christians today and God's truth? (i.e., the Bible) Be specific.
- How do you typically respond to today's "up is down" world? How can the Jesus approach help you?

WEDNESDAY // Read John 8:48-55, Matthew 5:14-16

- What does it mean when Jesus calls Christians to be "light" in today's dark world? Give an example.
- How did the Jewish religious leaders respond to Jesus when he kept sharing truth? How can this redefine success?
- In what way is God challenging you to be a more consistent light today? What steps will you take today?

THURSDAY // Read John 8:56-57, 1:1, Genesis 22:15-19, Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16a

- Explain what Jesus meant by saying that "Abraham rejoiced when he would see my day"? Be specific.
- How did the Jewish leaders respond? What was the spiritual principle about the afterlife they were missing?
- In what way does this still happen today? Give an example. How does this encourage you in today's culture?

FRIDAY // Read John 8:58-59, 5:17-18, Exodus 3:13-15

- How did the religious leaders respond to Jesus and His "I am" statement? Why?
- How do you think they would have responded to anyone else who made the same statement? Why?
- What does this highlight when people feel threatened? How does this help you understand what is going on today?

SATURDAY // Read John 8:48-59, Hebrews 4:12

- Explain the difference in the two approaches being used by Jesus and the Jewish leaders in their debate.
- How does Hebrews 4:12 help you better understand the role of God's word and how Christians should use it?
- Why is it important to understand this truth in today's lying and manipulative world? How does this help you?

MEDITATION VERSE: ¹²*For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

Hebrews 4:12