

Transition:

Jesus has already performed several signs, including healing and feeding the multitudes. His popularity has grown, but so has the opposition. The Jewish leaders are increasingly uncomfortable with His authority, especially as He performs miracles on the Sabbath and speaks of God as His Father.

Tell the story:

Tell the story (with passion!) the best as you can, don't stop and teach, try not to make points, just tell the story. Perhaps leave some parts out or make a mistake, just to see if your group catches it!

Rebuild the story:

Chronologically rebuild the story by asking questions. Have the group look for what was added or left out by looking in their Bibles. Then have someone else tell the story the best they can – just like you modeled the first time.

Discussion Questions:

1. What were the main reasons people were divided about Jesus' identity? John 7:15
2. In verses 16–18, Jesus says His teaching is not His own. What does this teach us about humility, authority, and how to discern God's truth in our lives?

Fundamental:

True Understanding of Jesus requires a heart open to God, Not just knowledge of public opinion. When we understand that Jesus has all authority and that He alone is the giver of life, we can see him as True. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom and the Knowledge of the Holy One is Understanding. Proverbs 9:10. The Bible says to have ears to hear and a heart to receive. We Should be open to who Jesus is. Our hearts must be in tune with the word.

1. What's the difference between knowing about Jesus and truly understanding who He is?
2. How does knowing that Jesus is God lead into your desire to share the good news of who He is?
3. Do you trust that your life is founded on Jesus? Or is it founded on something else?

Homework/Challenge:

1. This week speak up in truth in a situation where it's easier to stay quiet. Mention Jesus in a conversation where you normally may not.
2. Ask God for the discernment to know when to speak and the **courage** to do it with love and truth, like Jesus did in John 7.

Discipleship Tip:

Know who in your small group may still be walking in blindness. Practice telling testimonies in small group or one on one.

Prayer:

Thank You for Jesus' boldness and truth in the face of opposition. Help me seek You honestly, speak with courage, and stand firm in faith. Teach me to trust Your timing and fill me with the living water only You can give. May my life reflect who You truly are.