



DOWN
TO
EARTH

JOHN 1-6

Today's Worship Service

PRAISE

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. (Psalm 29:2)

Call To Worship

["Only A Holy God"](#)

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Installation

[Isaiah 6:1-4](#)

Smith, Robinsin, Farren, Thompson

Pastor Mike Matheson

Grace Church Elder Council

RENEWAL

As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)

["God So Loved"](#)

["His Mercy Is More"](#)

Offering

Bergthold, Cash

Boswell, Papa

PROCLAMATION

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. (Psalm 25:4)

Reading of the Word

[John 2:13-25](#)

Kari DeBerg

Reader: This is God's Word for us today.

All: Thanks be to God.

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Mike Matheson

RESPONSE

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. (Psalm 63:3)

Communion

["O Praise The Name"](#)

Benediction

Dave Kehrli

Hastings, Ussher, Sampson

Pastor Mike Matheson

Sermon Review Discussion Questions

These questions are for *after* the sermon and can be used for Life Group discussion, one-to-one discipleship, or personal reflection and application.

John's Gospel continues revealing Jesus to us. So far, we have been told: Jesus is the eternal Word that was with God and also is the eternal God; he then took on flesh to dwell among us ([1:1-18](#)). Jesus is then declared the "lamb of God who takes away sin" by John the Baptist, who redirects his own followers towards Jesus ([1:19-51](#)). Jesus goes public, performing his first miracle at a wedding and demonstrating that he himself is the eternal Bridegroom ([2:1-12](#)). But then... just as we thought we knew this Jesus, we're confronted with another side we have not yet seen. Has Jesus taken his reaction too far?

Discussion Questions

1. What are those topics that your spouse/friends/coworkers know not to bring up around you? How difficult is it for you to recover after having your buttons pushed?
2. What is it that makes Jesus so angry when he sees what is happening in the temple? How do his actions surprise or stand out to you? In what ways is your image and understanding of Jesus changed by his behavior in the temple (vs. 13-17)?
3. What would you see as modern-day equivalents of the money-changing in today's church? What are ways you feel tempted to wrongly orient your worship? How can we learn to recognize these obstacles and lay them down?
4. What is the objection made to Jesus for his actions (v. 18)? How might you state that in your own words? How does Jesus's response explain his reason for clearing the temple (v. 19)? If Jesus has become the new temple - and in light of Jesus' passion for people approach the temple - what does that tell us about how we ought to approach Jesus?
5. Read [John 2:23-25](#). Why do you think Jesus wouldn't entrust himself to some of these early professions of faith? What connection might there be between the way people approached the temple (ease & convenience) and the way people believed in Jesus? What does this teach us about true faith/belief?

In-Sermon Focus Questions

These questions are designed to keep you engaged during the sermon.

1. How is this picture of Jesus different from typical ones?
2. What is significant about the time and place of this story?
3. Why is Jesus so upset that merchants and money changers are in the temple?
4. What is the basis of Jesus's (unique) authority to cleanse the temple?
5. What is Jesus's response to some of these early professions of faith?

Sermon Notes

Preacher: Pastor Mike Matheson

Sermon: The Meeting Place of God and Man

Scripture: [John 2:13-25](#)

Date: March 1, 2020

For more information on this topic look into:

John: A 12-Week Study. (Knowing the Bible series) by Justin Buzzard

John 1-12 For You (God's Word for You) by Josh Moody

ESV Scripture Journal

Next Week's Sermon Preparation

These questions are for personal use during the week to help you prepare for next week's passage, [John 3:1-21](#).

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters, or themes?
2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

1. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?
2. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?
3. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?
4. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?
5. What surprises are there?

Meaning

1. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?
2. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?
3. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?
4. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

1. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
2. Is there some attitude you need to change?
3. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Adapted from: *One to One Bible Reading, A Simple Guide for Every Christian* by David Helm (Available at the Grace Book Cart)

Local Partnerships

Get involved in people-focused service opportunities throughout the Racine community. The goal is simple: Engage our community, invest in others, and patiently, lovingly point them to Jesus.

Learn more about Grace Local Partnerships

graceinracine.com/mission

Youth For Christ - Parent Life For Teen Moms & Dads

For more info contact Juli Toutant: jtoutant@yfcwi.com

There are approximately 140 pregnant & parenting teens in Racine schools. Many have little support at home and live in poverty. Parent Life leaders reach out to these teen parents & their children through loving relationships with Christ-centered adults. Working together with the local church, we connect with teen parents through weekly group meetings and mentoring. At group, the teens receive a healthy meal, support, and guidance on parenting topics, life skills, and healthy relationships. Most importantly, they hear the life-changing message of Jesus Christ and are encouraged to apply His message as a guide to daily life.

Parent Life locations:

Grace Church (Tuesday evenings)
Calvary Memorial Church (Monday evenings)
Journey Church (Kenosha, Thursday evenings)

Pray for Parent Life:

- That the love of Christ would penetrate the hearts of teen moms and dads, and enable them to know, believe, and receive His gift of salvation.
- That these teen parents will persevere through school and move toward independent living.
- For more adult leaders to serve the Lord as mentors and help hold babies during group.

Connecting with Missionaries

Would you like to get more involved with our Grace Church missionaries? Consider joining with others to hear how they're serving the Kingdom? Come and join us in our home for an hour in the evening on the first Friday of each month to pray for the nations and our Grace Church missionaries who seek to reach them with the gospel. Contact Joe Kobriger for more information: jobrigger@yahoo.com or (262)939-5152

Harvest Outreach

We are still accepting non-perishable food items for Harvest Outreach Food Bank. Please note that the collection bins will be available at the information center on Sundays and are no longer stored in the south entry.

Dinners 4:8 are coming! Stay tuned for more info in the weeks ahead!

Update on the Worship Director/ Pastor Search

Since December, we have been actively looking for a new Worship Director/Pastor. The job opening has been posted on our website and on a number of ministry-related job opening websites. We have also been networking and asking ministry colleagues for referrals. There has been one interview of a potential candidate and an onsite interview as well. We are actively engaged with a Christian-based recruiting firm to meet highly qualified candidates throughout the country. Please pray for this process and that God leads the right person to this important role in our church!

Awana Coin Wars Update

The kids raised \$750 that went to Tim Thomas, Awana Missionary.

Sunday School is available for children 5th grade and younger. Care for babies through preschoolers is available during the full duration of the service. Elementary-aged children will be dismissed to their classes during the offertory. However, we also value having children with us for the entirety of the worship service. Please know that your children are welcome to stay with you in the service and that we encourage their presence here.

Please pray for healing and recovery for those hospitalized or recently discharged: Michelle Pfelderer, Tim Hoeffert, Bob Sfasciotti, Sue Krekling, Denise Pipol

Last Week: Sanctuary Attendance: 532 Children's Ministry Attendance: 96

Giving: Last Week: \$59,061 YTD: \$239,105 +/- Budget: -\$3,427