

WEEK FOUR

THE TRUE TEMPLE

SERMON NOTES

- True religion is found not in a BUILDING but the BODY of CHRIST.
- True religion isn't something that you can MASTER, but something that must MASTER YOU.
- True religion is about BEHOLDING and BELIEVING before it can be about BEHAVING.

READING PLAN

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Jn 6:1-15	Jn 6:16-21	Jn 6:22-40	Jn 6:41-59	Jn 6:60-71

STUDY/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Nicodemus is a leader among the Pharisees, a group of religious fundamentalists. What are some "symptoms" of being a deeply religious person today?
2. Read John 2:13-25. What did Jesus come to do? Read Zechariah 14:21. What is the significance of the temple cleansing? How might that change the way people relate to God?
3. Read John 3:1-13. What does Jesus tell Nicodemus he needs in order to be saved? How is this different from a lifetime of religious duty?
4. Read John 3:14-15. Jesus compares himself to the bronze serpent in the exodus story (read Number 21:4-9 for a refresher, if needed). How is sin like the poison of the serpents? How is Jesus like the bronze serpent?
5. Read John 3:16-21. What does a person have to "do" to become a born again believer?
6. You ask a friend if they're a Christian. They respond by saying: "Well I try to be," or "I was raised Baptist." How might you gently challenge that person with the gospel?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

- Do you think that "religious" people are good or bad for society?
- Do you trust religious people more than a non-religious person?
- Do you want your children to follow any religious tradition?