



In the Flesh – John 5

January 21 | Group Discussion Guide

Begin with an icebreaker, a Scripture reading, and prayer (10 minutes).

Begin your time together by sharing your highs and lows from the past week.

Next, have someone read **John 5**.

After reading, have someone pray for your group time together.

Discuss the Scripture and the sermon as gendered smaller groups (25 minutes).

Take a few moments to reflect on the following questions:

- In John 5, a man is *willing* to receive healing. Are there areas in your life that are in need of healing or further growth? What are they? Feel free to be fully transparent here.
- Do you sense a willingness to grow in those areas? Why or why not? What areas are you unwilling? Explain.
- In his sermon, Dan framed this message in terms of a “crime,” an “interrogation,” “the witnesses,” and “the verdict.” What did Jesus do to make people upset with him? Why was it viewed as wrong? How did Jesus respond to those who accused him of wrongdoing? What was the verdict that Jesus was bringing people to consider?
- Dan also mentioned in this message that Jesus is (1) equal with God in performance; (2) equal with God in power to raise the dead; (3) equal with God in proclamation of judgement; and (4) equal with God in praise. Here are a few questions to reflect on based on these truths. Have each person pick one to answer:
 - Are there any areas that you think of Jesus as “lesser” than God the Father? Explain.
 - How does or how should the concept of Jesus as Judge impact your spiritual life?
 - In what ways do you offer Jesus praise in your everyday life (not just on Sundays)? How would you like to grow in that area?

Come back together a large group to discuss (15 minutes).

- First, ask everyone what stood out from your smaller group discussions.
- Next, **read Luke 8:19-20.**
- Finally, have everyone go around and share their answer to the following: If someone at a coffee shop saw you reading your Bible and they asked you, “Who is Jesus?” what would your response be?

Spend time praying as a group together for a higher view of Jesus (15 minutes).

Take a few moments to honor Jesus through prayer for who he is. He IS equal with God in performance, equal with God in power to raise the dead, equal with God in bringing judgement, and equal with God in being worthy to receive praise.

Think of this time similarly to your Rooted prayer experience. Allow space for each person to praise Jesus in prayer. You might designate one person to begin and one person to finish. Tell people that it's okay to pray more than once. The goal isn't to get through everybody. The goal is to allow space to just bring glory to Jesus!

Finish with logistics and prayer (15 minutes).

1. Make sure to inform your group about the study material available to help you walk through gospel of John series. You can find those devotionals at thecreek.org/devotionals.
2. Share any logistics that you need to with your group.
3. Finish your group session by sharing prayer requests.