

## John 7: 1-9

**Topic:** a) Is it good to be told that you're doing wrong?

a) Betsy is in school working really hard on a Math test. She's sitting at her desk working on the problem for a long time. She wants to get it right so she can get a good mark on the test. Her teacher comes over, stands by her desk and watches her working on the problem. Then her teacher bends down and whispers to her, "You're doing it wrong." She gives her some hints on how to do it right. Betsy has to erase all her work and start all over again.

- Do you think Betsy liked hearing that she was doing the problem wrong?
- Is it a good thing the teacher told her? Why?

a) Tim and Peter are riding their bikes towards the old bridge. They have their fishing poles. They always fish off the old bridge because that's where the biggest fish are. As they get near the bridge they see a police car parked in the road. The policeman gets out and tells them that the old bridge has fallen into the water. He tells the boys that they are going the wrong way. Tim and Peter get on their bikes and go back. They aren't happy. "That policeman just ruined all our fun!" said Peter.

- Is that why he told them they were going the wrong way? Why did he tell them?
- When God tells us we're going the wrong way...Is He trying to ruin our fun?
- Why does He tell us?
- When God corrects...Some people get angry and some people listen. Which one is wise? Which one is foolish?

## John 7: 10-13

**Topic:** a) Who do people say that Jesus is?

a) Matthew 16: 13-17...Who do men say I am?

a) Most people would say that Jesus was a good man who taught good things.

- Is this true?
- Is He more than this?

a) There are a lot of important questions in life (Mention a few age appropriate ones).

- The most important question you need to answer is "Who is Jesus?"

**Topic:** b) Who do you say He is?

b) Sidney was climbing a tree. He was really high above the ground when his foot slipped. When he put his foot back on the branch...it broke. Now he was hanging high above the ground holding onto a limb with his two hands. He tried to find a place to put his feet but couldn't so he just hung there in the tree. After what seemed to be a long time he heard a voice. The voice said, "Sidney, I'm from the fire department. I have a net. All you have to do is let go of that branch and I'll catch you! Sidney tried to look down to see who it really was who was talking to him but because of the way he was hanging he couldn't see below him. Now he has to make a choice.

- Is it important that Sidney believes that the man is who he says he is? Why?
- The most important thing in the whole world is to know who Jesus is and believe in Him. Why?

**Topic:** c) How do we know who Jesus is?

c) There's a bunch of kids playing. One of the kids tells the others that they are going to be studying about George Washington in school the next day. One of the kids says, "I know who George Washington is! He's the one who invented the light bulb." Another kid yelled out, "No, George Washington is the one who invented the telephone!" Another said, "No, he was the first astronaut who went to the moon!" One of the kids, a girl named Amanda listened to all this. Then she ran to the library, took out a book about George Washington, read it and ran back to the kids. She told the kids that George Washington was the first president of the United States. "Wow" said the kids, "How did she know that?"

- How did she know who George Washington really was?
- How do we know who Jesus really is? (Read the book....what book?)

c) One night Billy looked out his bedroom window. He saw something that he had seen every night before. Mr. Thomas who lived down the street was walking past Billy's house. Billy always wondered why Mr. Thomas was out so late, who he really was and where he was going. The next day he told his friends that he had seen Mr. Thomas walking by his house late at night. "You know why he does that?" asked Billy's friend, Calvin..."It's because he's a ghost and he only comes out at night!" Billy didn't really believe this. One day he saw Mr. Thomas working in his back yard. Billy went up to him and asked him why he walked past his house at night. "Because..." said Mr. Thomas, "I work at a restaurant that is open all night. I walk past your house to get to the bus stop so I can get to work."

- How did Billy find out who Mr. Thomas really was?
- Why was Mr. Thomas able to answer him? (Because he wasn't a ghost, he was real)
- What to know the truth about God? Pray...Jesus will show you because He is alive and real.

## John 7: 14-15

**Topic:** a) How come God knows everything? (He is above all and He created all things.)

- a) 1Samuel 23: 7-14....David asks God if the men of Keilah will turn him over to Saul.
- How did David know that Saul would come and the people would betray him?
  - How did God know?
- a) Once there were some people who lived in a city that had a tall wall all around it. The people never ever left the city. No one ever went beyond the wall. All the people would talk about what they thought was beyond the wall. Some thought there were forests, some thought there were monsters, some thought there was nothing at all. There was one man who lived in the city who had a hot air balloon. He would climb into the little basket under the balloon and go sailing high above the city. Then he would come down and tell the people what he saw beyond the wall. Some people believed what others said was beyond and some believed the man with the balloon. Who would you believe?
- How did the man know what was really beyond the wall?
  - How does God know everything? (He is above all.)
- a) Once there was a scientist who created a robot. When he was finished building it he had a big meeting with all the other scientists. He stood before them and told them how he made the robot and everything the robot could do. He showed pictures of all the wires inside the robot. He told them how he made the computer to tell the robot what to do. He knew exactly what the robot could do. When he was done talking the other scientists asked him questions about the robot. He was able to answer every question. There was nothing about the robot that he didn't know.
- How come he knows everything about this robot? (He created it)
  - How come God knows everything about everything? ("In the beginning...")

**Topic:** b) When we have a question or problem, who should we go to?

b) Matthew 14: 15-18..."Bring them to me."

b) John 6: 67-69....Where else will we go?

b) Sam is doing his Math homework. There is one problem that he can't get. He tried and tried but he just couldn't figure out the answer. He needs help. His parents aren't home so he figures he will go to one of his neighbors and ask them to help him with the Math problem. The man next

door to Sam is a plumber. The man who lives next to him is a farmer. The man who lives next to him is the one who wrote the Math book.

- Who should he go to for help?
- Who should we go to when we need help with anything? (The one who created and cares for everything.)

## **John 7: 16-18**

**Topic:** a) Do you want to know the truth? Then you will know it.

a) Matthew 2: 8....Herod wants the wise men to send back word so he can worship the new king too.

- Do you think he really wanted to know the truth?

a) John 9: 32-38... "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

- Do you think he really wanted to know the truth?

a) Matthew 19: 16-22...the rich young ruler.

- Do you think he really wanted to know the truth? How do you know? (He walked away from Jesus)

a) Isabel and her friends were standing on the sidewalk. An old man walked up to them. He was holding in his hand a tattered paper that looked really old. He handed the paper to Isabel and said, "This is a map that will lead you to buried treasure." Then he walked away. Isabel and the kids looked at the map. It did look very old. All the kids said, "That guy is crazy! This map is wrong; it doesn't lead to any treasure!" Then all the kids ran off to play. Isabel stood there looking at the map. Then she started to follow it. The map led her to a place deep in the woods. She ran home, got a shovel and started digging where the map had marked an X. Suddenly her shovel hit something hard. She shoveled the dirt away from it. It was an old chest and it was heavy.

- How did Isabel find out the map was true? (She obeyed it)
- How do we find out that God is true? (When we obey Him)
- Jesus told Peter to step out on the water and he would be able to walk on it. How did Peter find out if Jesus was telling the truth? (He stepped out)

## **John 7: 19-24**

**Topic:** a) Look at things with the heart of God.

a) Luke 7: 37-39... "Why would he let that woman touch Him?"

- a) Luke 19: 5-7... He eats with sinners.
- a) The kids were playing baseball. There were two outs and they needed the next batter to get a hit so they could win the game. The next batter up was Danny. The kids groaned when they saw Danny walk up to the plate. Danny wasn't a very good player. He never got a hit. In fact he struck out every time he got up to bat. Danny stood at the plate waiting for the pitcher to throw the ball..."Strike one!" The kids started yelling at Danny to get a hit. Some of the kids said that he would never get a hit..."Strike two!" "Oh no!" yelled the kids, "We're going to lose because Danny is a lousy hitter!" Danny held his bat tightly. This was his last chance. The pitcher threw the ball! Danny swung..."Strike three, you're out!" yelled the umpire. Danny walked back to his team feeling very bad. Some of the kids started laughing at him. Some of the kids called him names. They all told him that he was a terrible baseball player and they wished he wasn't on the team. Danny started to walk home. He felt like crying. Suddenly one of boys whose name was Jeremy ran up to Danny. He said, "Don't listen to them, Danny. You'll get better. Why don't we meet here tomorrow and I'll help you practice your hitting." Danny walked home feeling better. He had a friend.
- The team saw a lousy hitter that they didn't want on their team.
  - Jeremy saw someone who was hurting.
  - Who has the heart of God?

## **John 7: 25-31**

**Topic:** a) Nothing happens that God doesn't know about. Out times are in His hands.

- a) There is one word that God will never say.....oops!
- He is in control of everything
  - Nothing can happen without Him letting it happen.
  - There is one thing that God cannot be....(surprised)
- a) Norman believes in Jesus. He obeys his parents and teachers. He is nice to his friends. He's a good kid and everyone likes him and trusts him. Then one day a new kid moved onto Normans street. His name was Charlie and Charlie wasn't a good kid. Norman met Charlie and started hanging out with him since they lived so close together. One day Norman and Charlie were in a store. Charlie thought it would be a good idea if they took a couple of candy bars without paying for them. Norman knew this would be stealing but Charlie talked him into it. He said that the store had hundreds of candy bars and wouldn't miss a couple. He also told Norman that they would never get caught. Charlie was wrong. As soon as the boys got outside, one of the men who worked in the store ran out and grabbed them. He brought them back into the store, found the candy bars in their pockets, called the police and then called their parents. By the time Normans dad got to the store, Norman had been crying for some time. Norman got into so much trouble that day. His parents said they couldn't believe that he had done such a bad thing and that they were

very disappointed in him. How could they ever trust him again? His teachers heard about it and they couldn't believe he could do such a thing. They were very disappointed too. His friends found out about it and started talking about Norman and saying bad things about him. Norman felt like the whole world was surprised, angry and disappointed because of what he did. But there was one who wasn't surprised. Who wasn't disappointed in him and who wasn't angry with him. When Norman prayed he found that with God there was love and forgiveness. Norman found out that Jesus really is his savior. Norman got into a lot of trouble because of what he did but he found out that God never stopped loving him and would give him the wisdom not to do anything like that again.

- God knows what you are going to do everyday for the rest of your life.
- He still loves you.

**Topic:** b) How do we know that this is the Christ?

b) Andy and his mom were in the living room looking out the window one day. They saw a van pull up that said "MAIL" on the side. Then a man got out of the van wearing a uniform and carrying a bag with a bunch of mail in it. "Looks like the mailman is here." said Andy's mom. "Maybe that's not the mailman." said Andy. "Maybe that van is really an alien spaceship and that guy with the bag is an alien who has come to earth to spy on us so he can report back to his alien armies and then they'll attack the earth and make us eat yucky alien vegetables!" His mom looked out the window again. "Nope" she said, "It's the mailman."

- How does she know it's the mailman?
- Jesus said He is the Christ, the Savior. How do we know?

## John 7: 32-36

**Topic:** a) Will you be able to go to the party? (Rev. 19: 9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God.")

a) What do you need to go to a party?

- The person who is giving the party has to want you to be there.... **Mt 18:14** "Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.... **Hebrews 10: 10** By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.....**Joh 3:16** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
- You have to receive and invitation.....Rev. 22: 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely..... John 7: 37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.  
38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." .... Mt 11:28 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

- You have to want to go.... **Ps 27:4** One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple..... **Mr 5:18** And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him.....**Mt 20:34** So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.
- Do you have to bring a gift? ..... **Ro 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.....**Psalm 116: 12** What shall I render to the LORD For all His benefits toward me?  
13 I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the LORD.
- You have to be clean .... **Eph 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ....**Romans 4: 6** just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:  
7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered;  
8 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin."
- You have to know the party is going to be good ..... **Ps 16:11** You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## **John 7: 37-39**

**Topic:** a) What does water do for our bodies?

- a) Once there were some people who got lost in the desert. They walked around and around in the hot sun for days. Then they ran out of water. They kept waking but could never find their way out of the desert. Fifty years later some people found them. What do you think they found? (bones) Why couldn't they live? (no water)
- a) Exodus 17: 1-16...water from the rock.
- How good do you think that water tasted?
  - Were they refreshed? Were they able to continue?
  - What would have happened to them if they didn't get water?

**Topic:** b) Not just our bodies can get thirsty but we can too.

b) 1 Kings 10: 1-9....The queen of Sheba travels to hear Solomon.

- What was she thirsty for? (The wisdom from God)

b) Nehemiah 8: 1-3...The people stand for hours hearing the word of God read to them.

- What were they thirsty for?

b) Luke 7: 36-38...a sinner washes Jesus' feet with her tears.

- What was she thirsty for?

b) Once there was a boy who would do anything to be friends with people. One time he gave another kid a whole bunch of baseball cards if that kid would be his friend. If the boy had a toy that someone else liked, he would give it to them...if they would be his friend. He would do other peoples homework for them ...if they would be his friends. He would give his lunch to people...if they would be his friends.

- What is he thirsty for? (acceptance)

b) Once there was a little puppy who was always following people. If someone was walking down the sidewalk the puppy would follows them all the way home. Then it would wait outside the persons door hoping that maybe they would let him in. Whenever there were kids outside playing, the puppy would run up to them barking happily. The puppy was always coming up to people wanting to be petted. Wherever people were that's where the puppy was...following and hoping that someone might take him home.

- What is he thirsty for? (love)
- We are all thirsty for that.

b) What did Jesus say? **"If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."**

## **John 7: 40-44**

**Topic:** a) What is division?

a) Division is when people or things are separated by something.

a) Mary and Becky were sisters. One day they came home from school and were met with the delicious smell of their mom baking treats in the kitchen. They ran in and saw on the table the biggest cookie they had ever seen. It was huge, chocolate and had sprinkles all over it. Both girls grabbed for the giant cookie. Soon they were grabbing at each others hands and pushing each other away from the table, each one hoping that they would be able to have the giant cookie all to themselves. Mom walked in on the girls fighting. She made them sit at the table. Then she went to the drawer and got a knife. She handed the knife to Mary and told her to divide the cookie in two. That way there would be no fighting and both girls could have some.

- Was there division when the girls were fighting over the cookie?
- Did the cookie get divided?
- Did the girls stay divided? Why not?

a) Friday on the way home from school William and Derek made an agreement to meet over at Williams house on Saturday and do something together. It was a beautiful Saturday morning. Derek grabbed his skateboard and ran over to Williams house. He thought it would be the perfect

day to skateboard in the park. When he got to Williams house he was surprised to see William run out with his swim trunks on. William thought it would be perfect day to go to the pool and swim. So now the boys have to decide what they are going to do. Both boys want to do what they want to do. Soon they were arguing about whether they should go swimming or skateboarding. Soon they were so mad at each other because the one wouldn't do what the other wanted to do that they turned around and went their separate ways. William went swimming and Derek went skateboarding. This nice Saturday didn't turn out to be so nice after all.

- Was there division?

a) Exodus 32: 19-26....Moses when he came down from the mountain..."Whoever is on the Lords side, come to me."

- Was there division?
- Whose side would you have gone on?

**Topic:** b) Is there good division?

b) Sam was walking down the street with his baseball mitt. He was going to the park to play. Some older boys passed by. Sam knew one of them from school. The boys asked Sam where he was going and invited him to come with them. Sam felt pretty cool because these older boys asked him to hang out with them. As they were walking down the street, one of the boys said, "Hey, lets tip over garbage cans." Suddenly all the boys ran down the street and began kicking over garbage cans spilling garbage all over the street. When Sam saw what they were doing he went up to one of the boys and told him that he was going to the park to play baseball. Sam took off in one direction and the boys took off in another.

- Was there division?
- Was it good for Bob to be divided from these boys?
- Darkness and light cannot stay in the same room. Neither can goodness and evil.

**Topic:** c) Is there bad division?

c) Amy and Amanda were very happy. Amy's mother said that Amanda could spend the night and Amanda's mother said she could. The girls had the whole night planned out. These girls loved to play with Barbies. They were planning on playing with their dolls all night. Once there the girls took out their dolls and began to play. Amanda had a "Barbie princess flying fairy with butterfly wings and golden crown doll." Once Amy saw the "Barbie princess flying fairy with butterfly wings and golden crown doll" she wanted to play with it. Amanda said no, that it was her special doll and no one was allowed to play with it. Amy grabbed it anyway and soon the girls were yelling, crying and fighting. Amy's mother told them that they were behaving badly and they wouldn't be able to spend the night together. Amanda went home and both girls had a sad night.

- Was there division?
- Was it good?
- How can we not fight and cause bad divisions? (obey God first)

**Topic:** d) Why is there division about Jesus?

d) Once there was a room full of darkness. Then someone came into the room and turned the light switch on. The darkness ran away.

- Was there division between the light and darkness? Why? (Because light came into the room)
- John 3: 16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.  
17 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.  
18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.  
19 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.  
20 "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.  
21 "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

## **John 7: 45-53**

**Topic:** a) Why did people listen when Jesus spoke?

- Authority
  - He is God and was speaking good things to the people.
  - Everything He said was the truth.
- a) There was a boy who wanted to cross a busy street. He stood on the sidewalk and yelled, "Stop!" The traffic didn't stop. His mother saw the boy trying to get across the street so she came out and yelled, "Stop!" The cars didn't stop. The mailman was walking by. He waved his arms and yelled "Stop!" The cars didn't stop. The boy's neighbor saw them and he ran out and yelled, "Stop!" No one stopped. Then a policeman came by. He saw that the boy was trying to get across the street. The policeman held up his hand and yelled, "Stop!" All the cars stopped and the boy was able to cross the street.
- Why did they stop when the policeman said to? (Because he's like the boss)

- Someone once said that Jesus didn't look any different from any other person but when He spoke, the whole universe stood still. Why?

a) Mark 1: 22....Jesus spoke like He wrote the book.

a) Luke 15: 11-24....The Prodigal son

- Is He saying that God is like the father in the story?
- Is He saying that God isn't angry with us and wants us to live?
- When the people heard Jesus they heard God as He really is.

a) There was a beautiful flower garden. All along the path there were signs. One sign said, "These flowers were made by monkeys who sell them to buy bananas. Another sign said, "These flowers were planted by spaced aliens who brought them from another planet." Another sign said, "These flowers were planted by a giant nose who liked to smell nice things." Another sign said, "These flowers were created by God."

- Which sign is the best? Why? (Because it's the truth)
- People listened to Jesus because everything He said was the truth. He is the truth. There is nothing better than hearing what God says.