# Gospel of John Weekly Talk Ideas | Sean McGever

## John Chapter 7

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| Scripture suggestion, basic overview, and background:* A tough chapter for a club talk... but this IS part of THE gospel (it is in the gospel), our job is to discover the gospel FROM scripture, not look for OUR gospel IN scripture.
* A suggestion: *What people thought of Jesus and what Jesus said of himself*
	+ At a huge event crowds whispered:
		- “he is a good man” (v.12)
		- “no, he deceives people” (v.13)
		- basically ask: What do people say about Jesus in *your* crowd?
	+ Four claims of Jesus:
		- 1) My teaching is not my own, it comes from God (v.16),
		- 2) I am sent from God (v.28),
		- 3) I won’t be on earth for a very long time (v.33),
		- 4) If you believe in me, the Spirit of God will live inside of you and through you (v.38)
	+ The people in Jesus’ day were divided about Jesus (v.43)
		- He is the Christ/King (v.41)
		- No, he is not the Christ/King... lets seize him (v.44)
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| Possible main point(s):* People will always be divided about Jesus, but what do YOU think about Jesus?
* Jesus is no mere human... he is from God, his words are from God, and true belief in him changes your life from the inside-out
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| What this shows us about Jesus:* He is sent from God
* His teaching is not made-up, it comes from God
* Jesus knew he wouldn’t be on earth for very long
* Belief in Jesus changes your life from the inside-out
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| What this has to do with our life:* Jesus does not expect everyone to believe in him, he does not force you to be a Christian
* If you choose to do God’s will you will find out if Jesus’ teaching is true (v.17)
* Are you thirsty for a full life? Your thirst will be satisfied by believing in Christ and in turn flow right back out of your life.
* At YL it is OK to say what you truly believe, or don’t believe! This is a safe place.
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| Relevant technical details:* There are lot of technical details in this chapter that are beyond the scope of a club talk, e.g. Feast of Tabernacles, temple courts, Moses’ law, demon-possessed, patriarchs, etc. Save these for campaigners. Here are the ones which are relevant for this talk outline...
* Notice the order: Are you thirsty? Then drink. Then the living Spirit will flow from/out of you. Our thirst does not exist for us to be satisfied, but for us to be transformed to then flow out of us.
* Since v.39 tells us “streams of living water” is the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, we can say without hesitation, “If you believe in Jesus, the Spirit of God will work in you from the inside-out (flow). Theologically this is an enormously important truth promised as the New Covenant.
* “Christ” (v.41) = Anointed one, Messiah, King

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| Possible illustrations:* People on the street “who do you say Jesus is?” videos
	+ https://youtu.be/OB2cvvHtqsA
	+ https://youtu.be/johNLhZ5y48 (this one is a little more provocative - watch it first)
* Hand out slips of paper and golf pencils, have them respond “who is Jesus” in 3 words or less
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*For more details see ylhelp.com*

John 7 (NIV84)

*Jesus Goes to the Feast of Tabernacles*

**7** After this, Jesus went around in Galilee, purposely staying away from Judea because the Jews there were waiting to take his life. 2 But when the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles was near, 3 Jesus’ brothers said to him, “You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples may see the miracles you do. 4 No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world.” 5 For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

6 Therefore Jesus told them, “The right time for me has not yet come; for you any time is right. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that what it does is evil. 8 You go to the Feast. I am not yet going up to this Feast, because for me the right time has not yet come.” 9 Having said this, he stayed in Galilee.

10 However, after his brothers had left for the Feast, he went also, not publicly, but in secret. 11 Now at the Feast the Jews were watching for him and asking, “Where is that man?”

12 Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, “He is a good man.”

Others replied, “No, he deceives the people.” 13 But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the Jews.

*Jesus Teaches at the Feast*

14 Not until halfway through the Feast did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. 15 The Jews were amazed and asked, “How did this man get such learning without having studied?”

16 Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. 17 If anyone chooses to do God’s will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. 18 He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself, but he who works for the honor of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. 19 Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?”

20 “You are demon-possessed,” the crowd answered. “Who is trying to kill you?”

21 Jesus said to them, “I did one miracle, and you are all astonished. 22 Yet, because Moses gave you circumcision (though actually it did not come from Moses, but from the patriarchs), you circumcise a child on the Sabbath. 23 Now if a child can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing the whole man on the Sabbath? 24 Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.”

*Is Jesus the Christ?*

25 At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, “Isn’t this the man they are trying to kill? 26 Here he is, speaking publicly, and they are not saying a word to him. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Christ? 27 But we know where this man is from; when the Christ comes, no one will know where he is from.”

28 Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, 29 but I know him because I am from him and he sent me.”

30 At this they tried to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come. 31 Still, many in the crowd put their faith in him. They said, “When the Christ comes, will he do more miraculous signs than this man?”

32 The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him.

33 Jesus said, “I am with you for only a short time, and then I go to the one who sent me. 34 You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come.”

35 The Jews said to one another, “Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks? 36 What did he mean when he said, ‘You will look for me, but you will not find me,’ and ‘Where I am, you cannot come’?”

37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

40 On hearing his words, some of the people said, “Surely this man is the Prophet.”

41 Others said, “He is the Christ.”

Still others asked, “How can the Christ come from Galilee? 42 Does not the Scripture say that the Christ will come from David’s family and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?” 43 Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. 44 Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.

*Unbelief of the Jewish Leaders*

45 Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, “Why didn’t you bring him in?”

46 “No one ever spoke the way this man does,” the guards declared.

47 “You mean he has deceived you also?” the Pharisees retorted. 48 “Has any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? 49 No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law—there is a curse on them.”

50 Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, 51 “Does our law condemn anyone without first hearing him to find out what he is doing?”

52 They replied, “Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee.”

53 Then each went to his own home.