

Digging Deeper: John 7:25-52

Can I get a witness? — “The Testimony of the Holy Spirit”

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Day 1: Pray. Read John 7:25–27.

Jesus had just spoken in the temple courts at the Jewish Feast of the Tabernacle. He knew that the Jews were angry with him and were trying to kill him (for healing the whole man on the Sabbath). What was the reason in this passage why the people of Jerusalem did not believe that Jesus was the Christ they were waiting for? Have you ever thought about how you will respond when Jesus returns?

Day 2: Pray. Read John 7:28–32.

Jesus continued to teach in the temple courts. The things he was saying irritated the crowd. They tried to seize him, but Jesus' time had not yet come. Many in the crowd put their faith in Jesus. How did the Pharisees react when they heard the crowd whispering about the coming of Christ? How much room for doubt is present in your faith?

Day 3: Pray. Read John 7:33–36.

Jesus changed the topic of discussion that the people were having from his miracles to his death. Jesus said to the crowd that his time with them is short. Then he will go to the one who sent him. He continued by saying that (the people) will look for him but will not find him, and where he is going, they cannot come. What did the people assume Jesus was saying? How does this differ from what Jesus really meant by this?

Day 4: Pray. Read John 7:37–44.

On the last day of the Feast, Jesus stood up and spoke in a loud voice to the crowd. Teachers usually sat so Jesus drew a lot of attention to his message by standing. He proclaimed that if anyone (hallelujah) is thirsty, let them come to him and drink. What are these “streams of living water” that Jesus was speaking about? How did the people react to these words?

Day 5: Pray. Read John 7:45–49.

The temple guards went back to the chief priests and Pharisees who asked them why they didn't seize Jesus. How did the guards respond to this line of questioning? How did the Pharisees react to the guard's answer? What was the Pharisee's opinion of the crowd who had just listened to Jesus teaching in the temple courts.

Day 6: Pray. Read John 7:50–52.

What was the irony in verses 50 and 51 in regard to Nicodemus? In their anger, the Pharisees revealed how wrong they were about prophets coming out of Galilee. What other prophet (or prophets) came from Galilee? Do you believe that God can raise up prophets from wherever he chooses? Were the Pharisees' ideologies regarding this topic aligned with God?