

Remnant Life Church
May 5, 2013
Jesus – The Great I Am
John 6:25-35

Intro – Radio ad asking people if they have a plan in the event of a disaster or something occurs that changes their lives dramatically

HOTM - When life makes a dramatic turn, brings you something unexpected or becomes difficult, how you react or respond says exactly who you really are and, more importantly, who Jesus is to you.

1. The disciple John's gospel is very personal in that it reflects the relationship that John had with Jesus
 - a. It was the last of the gospels to be written somewhere between 80 and 95 AD
 - b. It bypasses the birth and early life account of Jesus and moves directly into His ministry
 - c. By writing this to the Jews John needed to focus on the proof of who Jesus was as the Messiah and to refute the teaching of Cerinthus - including that Jesus was the adoptive not incarnate Son of God.
 - i. Seven signs
 - ii. Seven statements by Jesus
 - iii. Resurrection

2. John 6 is Jesus' discourse on the Bread of Life
 - Discourse – speaking authoritatively on a subject
 - Jesus spoke this way often – Mount of Olives; with His disciples; the woman at the well.
 - Jesus has just fed the 5000
 - Only one of the 35 recorded miracles of Jesus in all 4 gospels
 - Jesus on the water – *Matt*: speaks of Peter; *Mark*: calmed the winds; *Luke*: no mention; *John*: supernatural transportation

3. **How do you respond when something unusual happens in your life?**
 - a. Impact is often the importance and proximity to your own life
 - i. 12.7.41 – 17 years before I was born
 - ii. 11.22.63 – 5 years old
 - iii. 01.28.86 – teacher

- iv. 09.11.01 – just a few miles from Shanksville
 - Like in Bible times most people today will look to their own immediate needs and desires first
 - V. 25-26 – they sound as if they are happy to see Jesus but they were interested in what He could do for them in the natural
 - He sees through to their hearts
 - What is the condition of our hearts as we deal with the things of life?
 - Even responses are important to understand
 - Anger * Fear * Panic * Withdrawal * Controlling/Calculating
 - Should not the very first thing we do in every situation be to inquire of God and ask for His wisdom, mercy and direction?
4. In Jesus' day, as is still the case for many in the church today, they thought that in order to gain God's favor they had to work for it (v 28)
 - a. Jesus replied to them that the only "work" they had to do was to believe (v 29) **(The root of salvation)**
 - b. The very best of what we can do is of no value to eternity
 5. Religion is about achieving and working to the place of earning God's love
 - i. Relationship is knowing that you can do nothing to earn God's love rather He gives it freely to us
 - ii. **Eph. 2:8-10** - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
 - iii. Woman at the loom – told to contact the supervisor if anything went wrong; small thing so she tried to fix it; got worse; he came and asked why; she said she was doing her best; he replied "that's not good enough"
 - iv. Our best is not good enough
 - v. Faith is not intellectual or physical, faith is about trust
 6. **In the midst of what is going on in your life can you trust that God is in control?**
 - i. He loves you and wants the best for you?
 - ii. Even if it does not seem that way at that moment?

Finally – knowing who Jesus is gives us the assuredness of His greatness

7. In John, Jesus makes 7 “I Am” statements
 - a. ...the bread of life (6:35)
 - b. ...the light of the world (8:12)
 - c. ...the gate for the sheep (10:7)
 - d. ...the good shepherd (10:11)
 - e. ...the resurrection and the life (11:25)
 - f. ...the way, the truth and the life (14:6)
 - g. ...the true vine (15:1)

8. These statements are His character, His mission and His nature

9. Can we know Him so well that our actions and reactions will reflect His character, mission and nature to all those who see us?