

A COMMISSION SEEK JESUS WEEK 4



RECEIVING JESUS
a study in John

Summary:

When we seek Jesus first, the things that were spoken over us, freedom from addiction, restoration of family, breakthrough from financial hardship, follow naturally. We are not called to pursue the prophecy. We are called to pursue the one the prophecy is about, trusting that everything else will align in His presence.

Key Points:

- The religious leaders questioning John the Baptist were so focused on identifying prophetic authority that they failed to recognize the Messiah standing among them
- Believers are called to seek Jesus himself, trusting that the fulfillment of promises will follow, rather than seeking the promises and hoping Jesus comes along
- Jesus answered John's doubt not with a yes or no but by pointing to the present works being done in his name, healing the sick, casting out demons, raising the dead, and preaching to the poor
- The church is called to be a wilderness people, a commissioned body through whom the world witnesses present-day miracles rather than simply hearing about historical ones
- The goal of this outward commission is that people come to know a present and active God, not merely a theological or historical figure

Scripture Reference:

John 1:29

Luke 7:18-28

Reflection:

- in what ways might we today be so focused on what God has promised that we overlook his presence with us right now?
- When John's disciples asked Jesus if he was the Messiah, Jesus responded not with a yes or no but by pointing to what he was actively doing -- how does this challenge the way we typically seek confirmation or reassurance from God in difficult seasons?
- The sermon draws a distinction between seeking the fulfillment of a prophecy and seeking the God who makes promises -- how does this distinction practically change the way you approach prayer, worship, and expectation in your own life?

The sermon describes a 'wilderness movement' of people who look different from the world yet carry the presence of God in tangible, transformative ways -- what would it look like for a community of believers to embody that kind of countercultural witness in a practical, everyday sense?

SERMON NOTES
9/19/26