



CONNECTING
PEOPLE TO GOD | PEOPLE TO PEOPLE | PEOPLE TO OUTREACH

Discussion Questions: **John 5:16-30**

John 5:16–30 records Jesus’ response to growing opposition after He healed on the Sabbath. Rather than retreating from the controversy, Jesus reveals His unique relationship with the Father, explaining that He works in perfect unity with Him and shares in the divine works of giving life and executing judgment. He declares that those who hear His word and believe have eternal life now and have passed from death into life, while also pointing ahead to a future bodily resurrection in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—some to life and others to judgment. The passage therefore presents Jesus not merely as a healer, but as the divine Son who gives spiritual life, raises the dead, receives the same honor as the Father, and will judge humanity with perfect righteousness.

1. Why did Jesus’ healing on the Sabbath create such intense opposition from the religious leaders?

2. What does Jesus mean when He says, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working”?

3. Why did the religious leaders understand Jesus’ words in John 5:17–18 as a claim to equality with God?

4. In John 5:19, what does Jesus mean when He says that the Son can do nothing “of Himself”?

5. How does John 5:19–20 show both the distinction between the Father and the Son and their perfect unity?

6. What does it mean that the Son gives life “to whom He will,” and what does this reveal about Jesus’ authority?

7. Why is the authority to judge all humanity such a significant claim for Jesus to make?

8. What does it mean practically to “honor the Son just as” we honor the Father?

9. According to John 5:23, can someone truly honor God the Father while rejecting Jesus? Why or why not?

10. What does John 5:24 teach us about when eternal life begins for the believer?

11. How would you explain the phrase “passed from death into life” to someone who is unfamiliar with the gospel?

12. In John 5:25, what is the difference between being physically alive and spiritually alive?

13. How does the spiritual resurrection of John 5:24–26 differ from the bodily resurrection described in John 5:28–29?

14. How do 2 Corinthians 5:8 and 1 Thessalonians 4:16 fit together with Jesus' teaching about resurrection in John 5?

15. John 5:29 teaches that everyone will ultimately be raised, either to life or to judgment. How should that reality affect the way we live, share the gospel, and respond to Jesus today?
