

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

PLEASE do not read these comments until you have prayed and read the Bible for this lesson to learn what the Holy Spirit wants you to teach your students. Then let Him guide you in using these notes. When you follow this procedure you will be a better teacher of your students.

Lesson Aim: Believe that Jesus is the Son of God: eternal, of the same essence, but under His rule.

Suggestion: The teacher lesson will call attention to some important truths to teach. After the lesson, give your class next week's Student Lesson so they can share their answers in class next week.

Introduction: When Jesus healed a paralyzed man on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders wanted to kill Him, but when He claimed that God was His Father, they were more furious because this meant He was equal with God. Jesus defended His action to heal this man on the Sabbath and did not deny their charge against Him that He claimed to be equal to God. He gave them three valid witnesses that He truly is the Son of God. Jesus said, "He that honors not the Son, honors not the Father, Who has sent Him." (Jn 5:23).

Do you believe Jesus will give you the power to keep His commands? 5:1-9

Jesus met a paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda who had this infirmity for 38 years. He was totally helpless and had lost all hope of being healed. Jesus asked him, "Do you want to be made whole?" He told Jesus that no one was willing to help him get healed. Jesus commanded him, "Rise, take up your bed (pallet) and walk." It is amazing that he believed Jesus when he did not know who He was and had been an invalid for 38 years, but he obeyed Jesus and stood up. Then he took up his bed and walked away. Many Christians are paralyzed by fear to witness. They believed Jesus had the power to save them, but they do not believe Jesus has the power to help them witness, so they remain paralyzed through disobedience to His command. Are you addicted by some other sin? Jesus is the Son of God and He commands you to rise and walk in His ways. His power will set you free from that sin. Will you obey Him?

How can Jesus be the Son of God and be equal to God? 5:17-19

Jesus said, "I am . . . the beginning and the end, the first and the last" (Rev 22:13). He is eternal and His Father is eternal. God always has been the Father of His Son. In His Son dwells all the fullness of the Godhead (Col 2:9). He did not become the Son of God through some kind of birth by His Father, nor was He created by Him, but He is the Creator of everything (Jn 1:1-3; Col 1:15-17; Heb 1:1-3). When He is called the "firstborn," it is a title of honor given to the son who is the head of his family, next to his father. Ishmael was the first son born to Abraham, but Isaac was his "firstborn" son, the head of his family after Abraham died. He was begotten by His Father, but that referred to His resurrection (Ps 2:7; Acts 13:33). Since God alone can forgive sin, and Jesus forgave sin (Mt 9:2-7), He is equal to God. Since God alone should be worshipped, and Jesus accepted worship (Mt 14:33; 28:9), He is equal to God. He is called the Son of God to show He is equal to God in His nature, but is subject to His authority as a son would be to his father.

How did Jesus do the works of His Father? 5:19-30

The Father	The Son
He does a work - v. 19	He sees His Father's work and does it – v. 19
He shows His beloved Son what He is doing - v. 20	He does His Father's work; men marvel – v. 20
He raises the dead and gives them life - v. 21	He gives life to the dead – v. 21
He gives all judgment to His Son - v. 22	He judges all things - vv. 22, 27; cf. Acts 17:31
He receives honor from all people - v. 23	He shares the honor given to His Father - v. 23
He sent His Son to save lost sinners - v. 24	He tells the spiritually dead to believe His Father and receive eternal life - vv. 24-25
He has life in Himself - v. 26	He has His Father's life in Himself - v. 26
He reveals His will to His Son - v. 30	He raises the physical and spiritual dead to judge them by the will of His Father - vv. 28-30

What witnesses did Jesus give the Jewish leaders to prove He is the Son of God? 5:36-46

Jesus' works, His Father's voice and the Scriptures, especially what Moses wrote about Him, are valid witnesses that prove Jesus is the Son of God.