

Text: John 7:14—18
October 30, 2005

Grace Bible Church
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The Heart Who Obeys is the Heart Who Hears

I. Jesus' Teaching Is In Accord with the Heart of God (14—18)

- Jesus' teaching is authoritative because it has its source in God (14—16)

- Jesus' teaching is authenticated by having a willing heart to obey God (17)

- Jesus' teaching is unadulterated because He seeks the Glory of God (18)

II. Jesus' _____ Is In Accord with the _____ of God (19—24)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions and praying through the issues will help you further meditate upon God's Word in order to see the areas of your life that need change.

1. In 7:1 Jesus was unwilling to walk in Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him. In 7:14, He was now teaching in the temple in the heart of the "enemy" territory. What happened? Why was Jesus unwilling to go and then willing to go? What does that teach us about the Lord Jesus? What can we learn from Him on this point? (Look at Luke 9:51 for that comes after John 7:9 and before 7:10.)

2. Do you agree or disagree with the premise that it is harder to convince an unbeliever of their need of Christ during their performance of a religious exercise? Why?

3. People today are confused as to which religion is right. Some decide that they are going to investigate which one is true and then they come up with no answers. Why weren't they able to see that Jesus is God, very God, and that He is the Savior and God's Son? According to 7:17, what are they missing in their search? Explain.

4. Jesus said that if "anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching..." How do we know if our hearts are truly willing to do His will? Why does God place our willingness to obey as a prerequisite before we are able to discern the validity of His teaching? Explain.

5. In verse 18 Jesus said, "He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory..." How do we practically guard ourselves from seeking our own glory? How does the church guard herself so that Grace Bible Church doesn't become self-glorifying instead of Christ-glorifying?

6. I see a larger principle in verse 18 in that Jesus says that "He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him." Jesus evidenced that He was perfect by the fact that He sought to glorify His Father. In what area of your life are you seeking your own glory and not the glory of the Father?

7. What are some additional thoughts and/or application from this morning's lesson? What does this passage teach you about the nature of man and about the nature of God?
