

LESSON 5
MAKING A CLAIM
JOHN 4:43—5:47



1 Think of a friend or acquaintance who has a crippling physical problem. How did this happen to him or her? How has that person adjusted to life?



Read John 4:43—5:47, “The Claims of Christ” chart, and the following notes:

☐ 4:46–49 ☐ 4:50 ☐ 4:51 ☐ 5:10 ☐ 5:17ff ☐ 5:31ff ☐ 5:39, 40 ☐ 5:45

2 What are the similarities between the healing of the official's son and the healing of the man by the pool?

3 What are the differences?

4 What four witnesses of his deity does Jesus appeal to in John 5:33–47?

5 If Jesus were not God, why would he make that claim?



Some say that Jesus never said he was God, but John quotes Jesus' claim to deity several times. Jesus not only claimed to be God, but he also provided miraculous evidence to prove it. Knowing Jesus is God gives us great confidence when we pray and when we follow his teachings. And having a written record of his life on earth gives real answers to the question "What is God like?" Anyone who wants to know about God has only to look at Jesus.

6 Give some examples of how people try to explain away Jesus' deity.



7 What would it take to convince people that Jesus is God?

8 If a person really believes that Jesus is God, what difference should this make in his or her life?



9 What changes might you make in your life to reflect more clearly Christ's divine authority over your life?

10 What Bible verse can you memorize or carry with you this week that affirms Jesus' deity in your own mind and that you can use with others?

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A Explain the statement "A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own country." How does it relate to your attempts to share the gospel?

B What evidence is there in these verses that Jesus came for all people?

C What was the problem with healing the lame man on the Sabbath? When have you let rules or procedures get in the way of helping people? What religious rules not found in the Bible do people follow today?

D Why did Jesus heal these people? How do you think Jesus would respond to your request for help?

E Describe Jesus' relationship with his Father.

