

ALL WHO THIRST

As preached on Sunday, December 21st

Read: John 7:25-52

1. In vv.25-36 we find increased debate and division in the crowds over who Jesus was. Why do you think there is so much division? Is there a problem with Jesus' explanation? With people's understanding? Both?
2. In v.30 we're told that the crowds "tried to seize" Jesus, yet no one laid a hand on him. John doesn't provide a detailed explanation of how this worked, so let's use our imaginations! How do you imagine this happened?
3. Jesus issues a powerful invitation in v.37. What is it? Why is it powerful? Why is it controversial?
4. Jesus makes a wonderful promise in v.38. What is it? What does Jesus mean? Is it possible to be a believer and not experience this? Why, or why not?
5. In v.39 John provides a clue as to what Jesus is teaching about. When is the gift of the Holy Spirit finally given to the Church? When do those who believe today receive the Holy Spirit?
6. Have you ever been in a situation where you were incredibly thirsty? How did your desire for water then compare to your desire for Jesus today? How did the satisfaction that water brought compare with the satisfaction your faith in Jesus has provided?
7. Have you allowed the living water of God's Holy Spirit to flow through you? If so, in what ways has He done so? How can we become more open to allowing this to happen?