



## Gospel Community Notes & Questions

**Title:** The Divine Jesus

**Text:** John 10:22-42

**Theme:** Jesus has proven his power to save; there's nothing left but to believe him.

**Teaching Notes:** The Jewish crowds of Jerusalem have rejected Jesus' divine identity once and for all. They refuse to believe in spite of many miraculous works that prove his power and authority. Jesus is the giver of eternal life, but they don't want a messiah who doesn't play by their rules. Jesus departs Jerusalem for the Jordan, and many who followed John the Baptist believe in him there.

**Outline:**

### 1. Jews' complaining.

- "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."
- "You, being a man, make yourself God."

### 2. Jesus' claims.

- a. Jesus claims to be the Messiah.
- b. Jesus claims to be the source and sustainer of eternal life.
- c. Jesus claims to be one with God.
  - Of one purpose, one work, and one essence.

### 3. John's consummation.

- The mission of John the Baptist is fulfilled: he pointed people to Jesus as the true Messiah and Lamb of God, and out of the seed he sowed many people came to faith.



**Questions to explore individually and with your group:**

1. How would you summarize the Jews (both leaders and crowds) at this point? What's hindering them from seeing and believing who Jesus is? What ideological filters were blinding them to the plain and obvious truth?
2. Obviously the details are different today, but in what ways are modern people continuing to reject Jesus for the same reasons (as question #1)?
3. What are some ideological filters that prevent people from trusting and following Jesus today? How could you address those filters with the Gospel?
4. Reflect on a time when your expectations for God didn't align with what he was actually doing or allowing in your life. How did you feel? What happened? How did the Good Shepherd guard your faith through that experience?
5. If you ever struggle with assurance of your salvation, as most Christians do at some point, what is it that causes you to doubt or fear?
6. When it comes to assurance of salvation, what do you hear Jesus saying in verses 28-29? What is your ultimate assurance of salvation?
7. How was John the Baptist different from other religious leaders of his day? [You might want to skim John chapter 1 as a reminder.] How would you say his motive and message differed from the Jerusalem leaders?
8. Does the contemporary Christian church in America look more like the Jerusalem crowd or the Jordan crowd? Discuss.
9. What are some ways you live for the praise of men? What's something specific in your life that would look different if your aim were to please God and to prepare people to meet and follow Jesus instead?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this Scripture?

**Prayer Prompts:**

1. Praise Jesus for being the source and sustainer of eternal life – the one who faithfully holds onto you, even when your strength or faith are wobbly.
2. Confess where you have failed to follow and trust Christ for ideological reasons, or because you wanted control, or because you wanted the praise of people.
3. Ask God to send you out into the world with the spirit of John the Baptist – living on mission to point others to Jesus as Savior and Lord.