

JURY DUTY

JOHN 5:16-47

TRANSFORMED BY THE TRUTH

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

The Charges:

- Breaking the Sabbath (16).
- Blasphemy (18).

Christ's Defense (17-23):

_____ fate is in _____ hands.
(23-30)

How to prepare for your day in court:

- _____ **Jesus** (22-23, 30; see also John 1:18; Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3)
- _____ **Jesus** (24-26; see also John 11:25-26)
- _____ **Jesus** (28-29; see also Matthew 7:18; 13:40-43; 25:34-46; John 6:28-29; Romans 2:6-8)

Five compelling witnesses (31-47):

- _____ (32, 37-38; see also Matthew 3:17; Mark 9:7)
- _____ (33-35; see also John 1:23, 29, 34, 36)
- _____ (36; see also Luke 7:22; John 10:25; 10:38; 14:11)
- _____ (39-40; see also Luke 45:27)
- _____ (45-47; see also Deuteronomy 18:18-19)

1. Just for fun, share with your group your most interesting experience in jury duty.
2. Read John 5:16-23. What are the arguments Jesus uses to defend Himself against the charge of blasphemy (insulting God)? Which argument is most convincing to you personally? Why?
3. Read John 5:24 and John 5:28-29. How do these verses harmonize? What other passages might help to explain how the two truths fit together?
4. Of the multiple witnesses for the defense in John 5:31-47, which one is most compelling to you? When have you presented that argument to a seeker with positive results?
5. What are your expectations regarding the Day of Judgment? What Scriptures have shaped your expectations? Are there any passages in the Bible that are out of sync with your expectations?