Connect Group Meeting # 8 Curriculum- November 8th to November 15th

FOOD TIME: (30-45 minutes) – Remember to give some direction for this time.

MEETING TIME: (45 minutes)
Jesus is now in the heart of His work and the Jews are starting to grow cautious of what He is doing and how He is going about doing it. We have just come off the man being healed by the pool, and the feeding of the five thousand, but the Jews still doubt. They are at yet another feast, the feast of the tabernacles, and it is seen that the work that Jesus has done is now in question, but Jesus turns it back around on them. He solidifies why He is there, He makes them wonder at His knowledge of the Word, and then He challenges them for throwing judgment at Him without looking at their own actions first. As we get into discussion this week, think about how Christ's reactions can be applied to how we treat others today.

READ John 7:10-24
10 But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret.
11 Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, "Where is He?" 12 And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives people." 13 However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews. 14 Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. 15 And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?" 16 Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. 17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. 18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. 19 Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill me?" 20 The people answered and said, "You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill you?" 21 Jesus answered and said to them, "I did one work and you all marvel.
22 Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. 23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? 24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.

FACILITATE Discussion Questions
1. How does Jesus make the Jews marvel at Him, and why is this important?
2. Why is verse 18 so important in our walk with the Lord today?
3. How does Jesus call out the Jews who questioned Him healing the man on the Sabbath?
4. What does verse 24 teach us?
5. How can we take the message that Jesus sends here, and try to utilize it in our everyday lives?

PRAY- Take the last 10 minutes to pray about the needs of the group.
APPLICATION- This passage is such a good one because it shows that Jesus Christ is Lord of all. He knows the Word, and the Jews marvel at it. We see His humility as He acknowledges the authority of the Father. He shows more humility in how He wants all the glory to go to God. All while Him knowing that They are Three in One. And then He ends it with correction. Jesus calls out that we are not to judge based on appearance, and not to be quick to fling our judgment out on others. It is such a refreshing thing to read, because we see this has become so prevalent in today's culture. We have a culture who judges first and then acts second, which is opposite of what Christ calls us to do. As an application, think about where you may fall short of this in your own life. Is there someone who you have maybe judged too quickly? How can you come with humility in asking for forgiveness from them?