



LENT IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

SACRIFICE

SOW

SURRENDER



G3 Devotional Week 2  
***The SOURCE and the STRUGGLE***  
(John chapters 7-11)

Our reading so far has challenged us to see the scripture in John as an unveiling or revealing of Jesus as more than a mere man. We've already learned that He is both supplier and substance. This week, we delve into Jesus as the source. His claims and demonstrations of deity are displayed – his power as Son of God, his equality with the Father, and his supremacy are all in full-throttle, and they are not met with warm response. He's a bit of an outcast and his claims put him center stage amidst conflict because the religious of his day struggled with Jesus being more than they expected. A feisty Jewish feast, a misplaced scandal at the temple, a sabbath day healing, secret plotting for persecution, and even a grief-filled fight amongst friends over death paint a very salient point I'd like you to wrestle with this week. Here it is:

**Sometimes, we struggle to embrace all of Jesus when parts of Jesus stretch what we had in mind! Manifestation is not always met with celebration!**

I raise this tension for those who have spent a long time yearning for the Lord to 'manifest' Himself in your life. When we say we want him, we really want parts of him. Perhaps, we want the parts that heal us, bless us, promote us, or vindicate us. However, I must raise the question, what do we do with the parts of him that are left? The parts that challenge us, change us, convict us, and correct us. What if there are parts of Jesus that we don't shout over – we struggle with because day force us to see how we have limited our expectations! Jesus is not just a man, He is the manifestation of God in the earth, and a healthy faith is one that will overcome the struggle to surrender to all of who He wants to be in your life. It may mean your temporary desire is delayed, or you reap resurrection instead of mere healing. However, all of Jesus is always better than the parts you wanted. So, struggle well.

Happy Lent!