

RIVERSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCHES
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION
John 5:16-47 – Jesus: God’s Son

1. When did you first hear that God has a Son? Is it something you are familiar and comfortable with or does it strike you as unusual?
2. What has happened in 5:1-15? Why has it lead to the current confrontation?
3. Throughout the gospels Jesus deals with Sabbath controversies in a variety of ways. What is his approach in v17? Why do the Jews find it so objectionable?

Jesus is equal with his Father and yet submits to him in everything v19-23

4. Whatever Jesus equality with God – it’s not a challenge to the oneness of God. Read v19. What does Jesus do? Does he do more or only these things? How would you express it – Jesus is not a competing God, he is.....?
5. In what other ways does John’s gospel reveal Jesus dependence upon his Father? See 5:16, 19; 7:16, 28; 8:16; 10:17; 14:31; 17:2

The Father loves his Son!

6. How much does the Father show his Son? Is there any secret work or will that Jesus doesn’t know? What is the reason in v20 that the Father shows the Son all that he is doing?
7. Read John 3:35 and 5:19. What do these verses tell us about the Father’s relationship with his Son?
8. Read John 5:30; 8:29 and 14:31. What do these verses tell us about the Son’s relationship to his Father?
9. How do these verses give us confidence that Jesus reveals the Father to us? See also Hebrews 1:1-3.
10. God is love (1 John 4:8). In eternity past before he created anything – how can we say God is love?
11. Jesus came to make us children of God 1:13. As the Son, his love for his Father is seen in his obedience. What things help you to obey God? Are there areas in your life that you are not being obedient?

The Son does the same things as his Father

12. Read v21-22. In these two things what functions do we find the Son of God doing that Jewish people would have understood as things only God can do? Deuteronomy 32:39.
13. Read v23. What is God’s purpose in this? Why is this an extraordinary statement from an Old Testament perspective. Read Exodus 34:14; Isaiah 42:8.
14. How are you seeking to honour the Son?