

In John 5:16–28, Jesus responds to Jewish leaders who begin persecuting Him for healing on the Sabbath. His defence—that He is doing the work of His Father—escalates tensions because it implies equality with God. Jesus then explains His unique relationship with the Father: He does nothing independently but mirrors the Father’s will and actions, including giving life and executing judgment. The passage reveals Jesus’ divine authority and identity, emphasizing that just as the Father raises the dead and gives life, so too does the Son. He has been entrusted with judgment so that all may honour Him as they honour the Father. Jesus declares that those who hear His word and believe in the Father have already crossed from death to life. He also prophesies a future resurrection when all will hear His voice—some rising to life, others to judgment—reinforcing His divine authority over life, death, and eternal destiny.

*When have you been afraid to ask a question or express a doubt to another person?*

### **Read John 5:16-28**

1. How does this connect with the healing in John 5:1–15?
2. What does Jesus mean when He says, “My Father is working until now, and I am working” (v.17)? How does this justify His Sabbath healing?
3. Why was Jesus’ claim to be God’s Son seen as blasphemous to the Jews?
4. What does it mean that the Son “can do nothing of His own accord” (v.19)? How does this speak to Jesus’ obedience and divinity? What would help you in being more obedient to Jesus?
5. What can stop us from sharing with others, about areas in our life, where you are questioning Jesus’ authority or timing?
6. Reflect on how Jesus deals with the confrontation with the Jewish leaders. What do you notice? Are there things we can learn for ourselves through Jesus’ interaction?
7. How does Jesus describe the unity and shared work between Himself and the Father (vv.19–23)? Some people believe that Jesus is only a prophet. From these verses what question would you pose to them?
8. What is Jesus referring to in verses 25–28 when He talks about the dead hearing His voice?
9. In what way is the resurrection mentioned in verses 28–29 both a promise and a warning?
10. Jesus constantly had to deal with confrontation about His identity, ministry and followers. Are there ways in which you feel the same? In what way can we support each other to help?

## Prayer Points

Pray for the ongoing needs for volunteers with regards to Toddlers, cooks and Limitless on Tuesday nights.

BMS World Mission seeks to tackle poverty in all its forms. Your generosity supports church and community mobilisation (CCM) across Africa and provides patients with lifesaving medical care at Guinebor II Hospital (G2) in Chad.

## Sermon Notes



# BIBLE STUDY

July 20<sup>th</sup> 2025

## Jesus' Defence:

**John 5:16-28**

John 1–7 presents key themes that reveal Jesus' identity and mission. Jesus is the eternal Word of God, bringing light and life to a dark world. He calls people to believe in Him for eternal life, but many reject Him despite His miracles and teachings. A central theme is new birth—spiritual transformation through the Holy Spirit. Jesus offers living water and calls Himself the Bread of Life, showing He alone satisfies the soul. These chapters also highlight growing conflict and division, as people respond to Him with belief, confusion, or hostility. Through signs and deep conversations, Jesus reveals His divine nature and the offer of salvation to all, regardless of background or status.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001