The Book of John: You Can't Come
By: Pastor Timothy Corder

These are not words that most of us like to hear, "You Can't Come". Let's explore why Jesus is telling the religious leaders of his day and others that they cannot.
In 32, the Pharisees heard whispering (that is conversation the crowd was having but not willing to say aloud, one might say the Pharisees were ease dropping) they heard such things, (what things?). Look back to 31, when "the Christ" comes will He do more… then this man? What do they expect, what more do they want?
When they heard this they send for the temple guards to arrest him. This is not a peace keeping mission, go out and make sure nothing gets out of hand, keep everyone quiet. No! Arrest him, bring him in, restrain J. 33 Jesus said, "I am with you for only a short time, where is it he is going? We see in 34 that the Pharisees don't have a clue, even though Jesus just told them. "and then I am going to the one who sent me". We spent much of the last sermon with Jesus explaining to the Jews- (leading, ruling body of the Jews) as well as the crowd, that he had not come under his own initiative, but that Father had sent him.
34 You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come."
You will look for me Pharisees but not find me, and worse you will not be able to come to where I am. Now let's hang out here for just a moment: they were ever learning yet never coming to the truth. To these "P' he said be with you a short time, then I go… where… you cannot come.
Can the Disciples Come? Would any of you be surprised to find out Jesus told Peter a very similar message? Jn. 13:36 36 Simon Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?"
Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later."
37 Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you."
38 Then Jesus answered, "… really" will you really Peter.
Jesus speaking to the disciples: Jn. 16: 12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.
16 Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."
17 At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?"… 20 Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy.

Jesus is telling the "P" that they will not be able to come to where he will be! But we see that he shortly afterward tells Peter that he will not be able to come where he wants to be and then all the disciples as well, but what is the optimal word to Peter and then to the disciples ? The insertion of the word NOW! Peter said he wants to be where the Lord is even if it cost him his very life, the disciples question why not NOW!

Who Else May Come? The answer is found in the broader invitation that comes to join him, to the “who so ever”. Jn. 14: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.
11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. 12 Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me
God has always told his people “You may find me when: Jeremiah 29: You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. A.S.K.
Matthew 7:7-12 [Ask, Seek, Knock] “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.
“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone?
35-6 the Jew: where is he planning to go, that we won’t be able to find him and come for him? Again the single focus and arrogance, will he go to the dispersed Jews among the Greeks, will he attempt to teach them. What does he mean; you can look but not find and YOU CAN NOT COME!
Now for dessert! 37-9 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them. 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.
To really appreciate the impact of Jesus’ proclamation we need to understand a little of the first century water-pouring ritual during this feast. The first six day of the feast they used to fill a golden pitcher with water from the Pool of Siloam and carry it back to the temple. When they reached the Water Gate, three blast on the shofar (ram’s horn) were sounded. When they arrived at the temple, they processed around the alter and sang the Hallel (Psa. 113-118), the priest took silver bowl filled them from the pitcher and poured the water on the alter. On the seventh day they processed around the altar. Seven times singing The people believed that when the Messiah came he would provide water as he had during Moses had done.
Jesus was once again showing himself to be Messiah, he had fed the multitude 5K man plus women and children in the desert, liken to mana from heaven, now offering Water spring up from the spirit. On the last day Jesus invited to come to him, to get the living waters. As the scriptures said, streams of living water will flow from within him. When Jesus offered the Samaritan woman living water, he said it would become in her a spring of water welling up to eternal life. like the water that came from the rock in the desert, now the rock of our salvation, is offering the water that will carry those who believe always quenching the thirst to believe.
39 by this he meant the Holy Spirit, whom those who believed in Him would later receive. This outpouring of the Spirit, the living water would take you around every turn in this life and will fill your thirst throughout eternity. An outpouring was expected at the drawing of the new age.

40-42 During the Feast of Tabernacle people remember the wilderness experience of Israel, Moses and the water from the Rock are topics of discussion. 40 On hearing his words, some of the people said, “Surely this man is the Prophet.”
41 Others said, “He is the Messiah.”
Still others asked, “How can the Messiah come from Galilee? 42 Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David’s descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?”

This account of Scripture: the Book of John 20:31But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
Do you believe today; that Jesus is your Messiah, the Son of God, or are you stuck of stupid, thinking well he is a historic figure but I can’t connect all the dots to show me he fulfilled every prophecy, if this is your problem this morning will you at least admit you’re not a prophecy expert, Hmmm, now I wonder what else you don’t know.