

8/23/15 "Putting the Puzzle Together" based on John6:60-69

Introduction: Jig-saw puzzles. Life is puzzling, relationships are puzzling, even faith is puzzling.

- Picture on box helps.
- Little boy story

Message of John's Gospel: God has revealed plan through picture of Jesus.

- Crowds starting to find Jesus' message too hard
- Jesus turned to disciples: "Do you also wish to go away? Peter's response: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
- Key to puzzle is Jesus.

We have trouble putting it together

- Torn between desire to live the successful material life and to follow the faithful spiritual life
- Easier to live as consumers or materialists
- People of Joshua's time were tempted to accept culture and religion of Canaanites. God challenged them to make a choice. Joshua's response: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."
- Each Sunday we declare our beliefs in the Creed, that's the complete picture

Someday in the future we'll complete the puzzle, and be welcomed into the heavenly kingdom of peace and joy, if we piece life together as God desires!