

Small Group Questions | Family Feud | John 8:12-59



As Jesus continues to minister in the temple courtyard, he finds himself in a confrontation with the religious leaders. While the confrontation seems to be a religious dispute involving Jews, their leaders, and Jesus claims, it goes much deeper. The text makes it clear that the deeper dispute involves two very different families—one claims the devil as its Father, the other claims God. Ultimately, every person belongs to one of these two families. And as we shall see: Your family determines your destiny, and Jesus determines your family.

Let's get going: Share one or two ways (positive or negative) that your human family impacted who you are today?

1. The word Father is used 21 times in **John 8:12-59**. Read the chapter aloud, noting each time the word Father is used.
2. Jesus tells the Jewish leaders, "You belong to your father, the devil." How does Jesus describe the devil in verse 44? How else does the Bible describe the devil? **See I Peter 5:8, Revelation 12:9, Zechariah 3:1, Ephesians 6:10.**
3. **Read Genesis 3:1-7.** What are different ways the devil (the serpent) works to deceive Adam and Eve? Are any of these like the deceptive tactics used to deceive the Jewish leaders in John 8? To which of the devil's tactics are you the most vulnerable?
4. Do you agree with the statement: Every person is either a member of the Devil's family or God's family? If not, why not?
5. What does this chapter have to say about the relationship between the Father and Jesus? Begin by noting individual verses; then, summarize what these verses have to say about the relationship.
6. In the message, Doug looked at three "promises" Jesus gives to those who are part of His family. These promises are found in 8:12, 8:30-32, and 8:51. Go around the group and identify which of these promises means the most to you at "this stage of your life" and why it does.
7. What's the biggest takeaway from this chapter for you? What is God wanting you to act on in a whole new way?

Close in prayer. Thank God that Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8), and that you are part of God's family. Pray by name for the people in your life that need to become part of God's family.