

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of May 8, 2016

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Jesus is the eternal, perfect Son of God who followed his Father's will perfectly - dying on the cross to redeem us from the domain of darkness into the family of God.

This Week's Text: John 8:39-47

"The children of God will so love the truth that they will believe in Jesus; the children of the devil will be so characterized by lies that they will not be able to accept the truth, precisely because it is the truth." **D.A. Carson**

"A true child of God cannot and does not go on sinning in a way that would correspond without seeing it as sin, hating it as sin, confessing it as sin, and fighting it as sin." **John Piper**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- What is the setting and context of this passage? What had Jesus reveal about himself up to this point? What did he reveal about his relationship with God the Father? What did he reveal about our spiritual condition? Reference verses 33-34.
- Why were the Jews confused about their identity? What were they depending on for their
 righteousness? How could Jesus both affirm and deny their identity as Abraham's offspring?
 Reference verses 37-41. Why can we as Christians claim that we are legitimate descendants of
 Abraham? Reference Romans 9:6-8.
- How was Abraham saved from paganism to righteousness? Reference Galatians 3:6-9,
 Genesis 15:6. How are we saved from our sinful, devilish desires to loving, worshiping, and joyfully serving God?
- What can we learn about Satan from Jesus' words? What does it mean that he was a liar and murderer from the beginning?

- Discuss how the following questions are helpful for solidifying your identity as a child of God.
 - o Do I love and treasure God?
 - o Do I love God's Word?
 - o Do I desire to know and obey God's Word?
- How does the passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?