

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

John 8: 48-59

For Starting

- In 1 minute, write down as many Bible characters whose names start with the same letter as your own. (Most wins!)
- What is the best thing that happened to you last week?
- How long was your longest argument? What was it about?
- What are some of the questions you are puzzling over that you want to ask God about?

For Reviewing

- What did the Pharisees accuse Jesus of being (v.48)?
- Who did Jesus honour by what He did and say (v.49)?
- Was Jesus seeking to glorify himself by what He did (v.50)?
- What will happen to people that keep God's Word (v.51)?
- Which historical figures did the Jews say had died (v.52)?
- Who did the Jews accuse Jesus being greater than (v.53)?
- Put Jesus' answer (v.54-56) into your own words.
- The Jews considered Jesus less than 50 years old (v.57). How old was Jesus at this time? See Luke 3:23.
- Jesus' profound statement starts with "Very truly I tell you" (v.58). Where else does Jesus use this phrase? e.g. John 1:51
- How did the Jews respond to what Jesus said (v.59)? Why?

For Discussion

- In what ways did the Pharisees dishonor Jesus (v.49)?
- Why didn't Jesus spend time defending His reputation to the Jews (v.50-51)? How can we apply this to ourselves today?
- The Jews asked Jesus, "Who do you think you are?" (v.53). How does this differ from Jesus' question in Mark 8:27? How would you reply to Jesus' question?
- Jesus' declaration (v.58) and the Jews response (v.59) clearly shows Jesus' divinity and humanity. Do you agree/disagree?
- How does what Jesus say help us to speak to non-Christians?
- You could end by reading together John 8:58.

John 8:48-59 (NIVUK)

Jesus' Claims About Himself

⁴⁸ The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"

⁴⁹ "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honour my Father and you dishonour me. ⁵⁰ I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹ Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death."

⁵² At this they exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that whoever obeys your word will never taste death. ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"

⁵⁴ Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me.

⁵⁵ Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷ "You are not yet fifty years old," they said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!"

⁵⁸ "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" ⁵⁹ At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.