

CONVERSATIONS

*what is Jesus
saying to you?*

CHILD OF GOD OR DEVIL?

June 3rd, 2018

TEXT: JOHN 8:37-47 ESV

TWO HUMANITIES & TWO NON-HUMAN PATERNITIES

But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. ⁴⁶ Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷ Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.
- John 8:45-47 ESV

THREE IDEAS ABOUT HUMAN PEDIGREE

O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!
- Psalm 105:6 ESV (see also Isaiah 41:8)

Exodus 4:22; Jeremiah 31:9

And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.
- Matthew 3:9 ESV

- **MULTICULTURALISM - ALL HUMAN CULTURES ARE EQUALLY VALID.**
- **ETHNOCENTRISM - ONE HUMAN CULTURE IS SUPERIOR TO OTHERS.**
- **THEOCENTRICISM - ONE'S HUMAN CULTURE IS DETERMINED BY THEOLOGY.**

FOUR TRAITS OF HUMAN PATERNITY

For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. ²⁹ But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God. - Romans 2:28-29 ESV

1. CONGRUENCE - WE LOOK A LOT ALIKE .

I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. ³⁸ I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father. - John 8:37-38 ESV

Just as water mirrors your face, so your face mirrors your heart. - Proverbs 27:19 MSG

2. COMPORIMENT - WE ACT THE SAME WAY.

They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did,"⁴⁰ but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did.⁴¹ You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God." - John 8:39-41 ESV

Luke 3:8; 1 John 3:10

By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life...⁴ And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. - 2 Peter 1:3-4 NLT

3. CONSANGUINITY - WE FEEL THE SAME THING.

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me..."⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him... - John 8:42, 44 ESV

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. - 1 John 5:1 NLT

Genesis 18:1-8

4. COLLOQUIALITY - WE SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE.

Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say.⁴⁴...When [the devil] lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies...⁴⁷ Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God. - John 8:43, 44, 47 NIV

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK...

- Memorize **John 8:44.**
- Become more in tune with the image of God in my life, so that I take on more of his character in my life.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

WALK THE TALK

A Small Group Guide

Read John 8:37-47

1. Who do you look the most like in your family? What characteristics do you have of your parents?
2. What is the ultimate test that Jesus gives in verses 41-47 to show that someone belongs to God?
3. How does Jesus account for their misunderstanding of Him (see verses 37, 43, 45, and 47)?
4. How does Jesus use their loyalty to Abraham against them?
5. Why does one's theology determine their true identity, other than their particular secular culture?
6. Under the "Four Traits of Spiritual Paternity," which one speaks to you the loudest? Explain. Which one do you think is the most important (if not the one you already chose)?
7. In what way has your religious heritage been a benefit to you? A handicap?

Take the time to pray for one another's needs.