



OPENING QUESTIONS:

When was the time, or what were the circumstances that moved you from a cognitive belief in Jesus to a complete belief (to be entrusted to) Jesus?

When you think about your relationship with Jesus... What word describes it best?
- Abiding. Deciding. or **Hiding**?

READ... JOHN 8:31-32 ³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

ASK What were some of the things that you had or valued or even struggled with before you had faith in Jesus, that are now replaced with Freedom?

TALK ABOUT IT What are things that the world pursues that appears to bring them freedom? Have you seen people’s dependency on things other than Jesus fail them? Even enslave them?

Much of this passage of Jesus’ teachings talks about the difference between being a **Son** and being a **Slave**. Sonship means we get to be in God’s **house**... Slavery means we are an **orphan**.

THANK GOD That the Father’s definition of **SONSHIP** is not about **biology**, but a result of our obedience to His invitation for us to become His Son’s and Daughters!

RE-READ... JOHN 6:35-40 Jesus sacrifice for the redemption of mankind is rewarded by the Father giving Him the redeemed as a gift! And that gift is eternal!

READ... JOHN 8:34-36 How has being a part of the family of God changed how you think and even desire the former things you used to think the world had to offer?

ASK The group to think about how their lives are different with the Holy Spirit in control of it!

READ... JOHN 8:41-43 Those who were listening to Jesus, who were NOT His disciples stooped to low levels to try to accuse Him. Recognizing He was born to an unwed mother!

How does this remind us today of the levels of hatred and misunderstanding that exists by those who are opposed to the Gospel?

In the **BLINDNESS** of the world, there isn’t even a desire to hunger and thirst for the true reality!

READ... JOHN 8:43-47 What does Jesus say about the devil? What is his nature? What is his goal for mankind?

REMEMBER: This interaction in this chapter of John was not a cordial conversation, but instead a confrontation filled with bitterness, rage, and contempt they felt toward Jesus.

Much like what we encounter today when we align ourselves with Jesus!

RECAP... the dialogue between Jesus and the religious leaders here...

JESUS TELLS THE PHARISEES...	PHARISEE'S RESPONSE...
I know where I came from and where I'm going (8:14-18)	You were born illegitimately (8:19)
You do NOT know God (8:19)	No Response
You will die in your sins (8:21,24)	Who are you? (8:25)
[My] truth will make you free (8:31-32)	We've never needed Freedom (8:33)
You are slaves to sin (8:34-48)	We are children of Abraham (8:39)
You are murderers, liars, doing the deeds of your father (39-41)	We are not illegitimate like you, God is our F. (8:41)
Your father is the devil, a murderer and a liar (8:42-47)	You're nothing but a Samaritan and have a demon (48)
I have power even over death (8:49-51)	Who do you think you are? (8:52-54)
My Father honors me [as His son] but you are liars (54-56)	You're just a young upstart, u claim to have seen Abe 57
I AM (8:58) (compare Gen. 17:1 and Ex. 3:14)	They picked up stones to throw at Him (8:59)

TAKE TIME TO PRAY: Talk to the Father about what we are facing in the world around us. Thank Him that you have tasted and seen the the Lord is Good. Pray for others to see and hear with new eyes and ears. Pray for them to hunger and thirst the True food they need from Jesus and that they learn that only He can satisfy!

HOUSEKEEPING:

EXTRA READING: Re-Read JOHN 8 again this week!

Encourage the group to get to it on their own in their personal time with God.

LADIES: Sign up for the SISTERHOOD Christmas dinner!