

# John 8:12-59

Lesson 14  
For January 4, 2009

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## Debate

1. (v. 8:12) What relationship might there be between 8:12 and the next miraculous sign that Jesus performs in 9:1 and following?

Read John 1:5 and 3:19 – What is the “darkness” to which Jesus refers? How would you describe the “light of life”?

2. (v. 8:13-18) How are the subjects of 8:14 and 5:31 different so that Jesus’ testimony about himself is valid in one way and invalid in another?

How does Jesus compare his knowledge with theirs?

In what way does Jesus not judge anyone?

Who are the two who bear witness to Jesus?

See John 5:31-39 for additional witnesses to Jesus.

3. (v. 8:19-20) Read John 1:14 and 14:9 – In what ways is it true that knowing Jesus is to know the Father?
4. (v. 8:21-24) Read John 13:36 – Where is Jesus going?

What is the only remedy for dying in one’s sins?

From the Gospel of John, thus far, what is included in “believing that Jesus is the one he claims to be?”

5. (v. 8:25-30) We might be tempted to excuse the people for not understanding Jesus, but does Jesus excuse them?

In what two ways does Jesus claim obedience to the Father (v. 26, 29)?

Read John 3:14 and 12:32-33 – To what is Jesus referring when he speaks of being “lifted up”?

What will be the result of Jesus’ being lifted up?

6. (v. 8:31-36) Compare v. 30, 31 with v. 44, 47 – What kind of “faith” and “belief” do these people apparently have?

How does Jesus here define faith?

How has Jesus been defining truth and what freedom results from this truth (compare v. 32 with 34-36)?

What is Jesus' implication, in v. 35, regarding the Jews?

7. (v. 8:37-47) In what way are the Jews "descendants" of Abraham without Abraham being their "father"?

In how many ways does Jesus contrast them (the Jews) with himself?

Who is their father and who is his?

What do they do and not do and what does Jesus do?

Why are they unable to hear and believe Jesus?

Read John 8:44 – What does this statement do to the concept of the "universal Fatherhood of God?"

8. (v. 8:48-59) Read Mark 3:22-30. In what way is the charge of "demon possession" a serious charge and what is the result?

Why does Jesus raise the issue of the Father as "judge" in this context?

Read v. 51 – Instead of being "judged" by God, what is possible and how is it attained?

In vv. 54, 56, What two ways does Jesus respond to their question, "Who do you think you are?"

Read Hebrews 11:11-13 – How did Abraham rejoice at and see Jesus' day?

How does Jesus respond to the Jews' questioning his being greater than Abraham?

### **Reflection Questions**

As unbelievers we were once in spiritual darkness. Describe spiritual darkness.

