

## Dealing With the Devil in This Dark World

Whose child are you? How would you describe your relationship to your physical father?

### In this Series...

1. We are learning that light and darkness are different worlds that compete and conflict with each other.
2. We are learning that God is light, and Christians can live in, and shine forth, the light of God's love.

### Jesus Affirmed His Relationship With His Father

<sup>18</sup> "I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is **the Father**, who sent me."

<sup>19</sup> Then they asked Him, "Where is your father?" "You do not know me or my Father," Jesus replied. "If you knew me, **you would know my Father also.**"

<sup>28</sup> So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He and that I do nothing on my own but **speak just what the Father has taught me.**"

<sup>36</sup> "So if **the Son** sets you free, you will be free indeed."

<sup>38</sup> "I am telling you what I have seen **in the Father's presence**, and you are doing what you have heard from your father."

<sup>49</sup> "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but **I honour my Father** and you dishonour me."

<sup>54</sup> Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. **My Father**, whom you claim as your God, **is the one who glorifies me.**" - John 8:18,19,28,36,38,49,54

### Jesus' Accusers – Who Was Their Father?

#### 1. Abraham? (vs. 31-41)

"If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do what Abraham did." - John 8:39

#### 2. God? (vs. 41-43)

"If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God." - John 8:42

Tests if God is my Father:

1. Is there a family resemblance, is there affection?
2. Is my language familiar to my family?

"Why is my language not clear to you?" - John 8:43

#### 3. Satan? (vs. 44-47)

"You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires." - John 8:44

Descriptions of the Devil:

1. He is a murderer (destroyer).

"He was a murderer from the beginning..." - John 8:44

2. He is a deceiver.

"...not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him." - John 8:44

3. He is the liar and accuser.

"When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." - John 8:44

4. He is the tempter.

"**The tempter** came to Him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." - Matthew 4:3

5. He is our enemy.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy." - John 10:10

## Steps in Dealing With the Devil

1. Acknowledge the reality of Satan and demons.

"... take your stand against the devil's schemes." - Ephesians 6:11

2. Arm yourself for battle. (Put on the armour of God. Ephesians 6:10-18)

"Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand..." - Ephesians 6:11

3. Affirm your relationship with the Father.

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." - James 4:7

4. Act on the fact that Christ has already won the battle.

"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out." - John 12:31

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because **the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.**" - 1 John 4:4

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