

Preparation Questions John 8.12-59
Family Membership

Text1: How does 8vs12-13 remind us of the big questions raised in the clash between Jesus and God's historical people – the Jews?

OT sharpener: How does Isaiah 9vs1-2 help us see that 8.12 follows directly on from 7.52? How does it remind us that the Jews aren't judging with 'right judgement'?

Text2: After chapters 5-7, the reader is perhaps asking: '*Why are so many Jews so unwilling to believe?*' & '*Are they really so wrong?*' Looking at vv13-30, how do Jesus' comments about his origins and their origins begin to explain why they are so clueless about God? How do Jesus' comments about his destiny and their destinies explain the seriousness of their predicament?

How does Jesus show that his testimony is true in vs14-30 and that the unbelief of his opponents is unfounded?

Text3: Who do the Jews think they are? How does Jesus reveal their true family membership in vs31-47?

Text4: How do vs48-59 expose the true horror of the Jews' rejection of this man Jesus?

Sum up: Chapter 8 ends in much the same way as chapter 7 started. After both these chapters, how would you sum up why God's historic people reject their Messiah?

Ones to chew on:

How do chapters 7 & 8 reinforce our appreciation of John 1.9-12?

How does the unveiling of unbelief (both in the Jews of his day and by implication the world that rejects Jesus now) reassure us that what Jesus says about himself and his rescue is true?

What questions are we still asking?