

# Sermon notes: May 21, 2023

## We Need To Know Where We Parked

Passage: John 8:31-47

### **Dispute Over Whose Children Jesus' Opponents Are**

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." <sup>33</sup> They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. <sup>37</sup> I know that you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word. <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>39</sup> "Abraham is our father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do what Abraham did. <sup>40</sup> As it is, you are looking for a way to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. <sup>41</sup> You are doing the works of your own father." "We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself." <sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent me. <sup>43</sup> Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. <sup>44</sup> You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup> Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! <sup>46</sup> Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? <sup>47</sup> Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

### **Premise: Freedom Was The Topic Under Discussion**

**Jesus Claimed To Give Freedom**

**Jesus' Opponents Said They Were Already Free**

**Implications**

**There Is Truth**

**We Can Be Free**