

Matthew 12:22-28 /// Week of April 2

Today's big idea: Holiness overcomes the devil.

**To be clear, the time they felt overwhelmed doesn't have to have anything to do with demons or the devil.**

- Review the Community Group Guidelines together.
- Share with the group a time when you felt overwhelmed.
- Talking about demons or the devil can feel overwhelming sometimes. Someone pray that God would help us hear from him.

Head

- Use the Bible Storytelling technique to tell the story of Jesus called Beelzubul.
- Retell the story together as a group.
- Read the story from Matthew 12:22-28 in the Bible.

**Help you group members understand that this is not about unity at home. Rather, this story is about Jesus proving the nonsense of the Pharisees and that he is the Messiah.**

- Why did the Pharisees say what they said, and what point were they trying to make?
- Why did Jesus say what he said about a house divided, and what point was he trying to make?
- What does verse 28 tell us about Jesus and about the Pharisees?

Heart

**There may be quite a bit of tension here. Be ready to answer first with transparency and vulnerability.**

- How does it make you feel talking about healing, and how does it make you feel talking about demons and the devil? If there is a difference, then why?
- Do you think God could drive out a demon through you? Why or why not?

Hands

**To be clear, not everything we go through is the devil, but he is active with his lies. Help others feel open to share their experiences and help them know they do have power in Christ.**

- If we are ever feeling impacted by a demonic influence what should we do?
- What are things we can do now to be ready to go all the way and intercede for others who are being impacted by a demonic influence?
- Close in prayer together.