

Who Condemns You?

Group Questions - *Honest to God*

John 8:1-11

Welcome & Check-In

- Where did you see God at work in your life since we last met?
- Choose an icebreaker question from the appendix.

FOLLOWING JESUS: Scripture & Reflection

- Read John 8:1-11 out loud as a group.
 - What words or phrases stand out to you?
 - What questions do you have?
- Why do you think John tells us that the religious leaders were using the woman's situation as a trap for Jesus? How does knowing their motive change the way you read the story?
- If you had to guess, what do you think Jesus wrote in the dirt?
- The Law of Moses prescribed death for both parties in adultery (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22). If the religious leaders had followed the Law correctly and brought both the man and the woman, how do you think Jesus would have responded? Would he have upheld the prescribed punishment? Why or why not?
 - Does Jesus challenge the Law of Moses in this story, or does he challenge the way the religious leaders are using it? What in the text leads you to your answer?
- What does Jesus accomplish with the statement, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone"? Is he saying that only sinless people can ever confront sin?
- In your opinion, what does this story teach us about Jesus' posture toward guilty people? What does it teach us about his posture toward self-righteous people?

IN COMMUNITY: Sharing & Support

- On Sunday, Pastor Dennis mentioned that there is a difference between guilt and condemnation. How would you define that distinction? When is guilt condemned and when is it not condemned?
 - Read Romans 8:1 as a supplemental passage.
- Which is easier for you: extending grace to someone else's sin or taking their sin seriously? Why?
- What would it look like to confront sin the way Jesus does, without minimizing it and without condemning the person?
- Where in your life might Jesus be saying, "Neither do I condemn you"? Where might he also be saying, "Go and leave your life of sin"?
- How can a Christian community become a place where people feel safe enough to bring their sin into the light without becoming a community that minimizes sin?
- How can your group support you?

ON MISSION: Next Steps

- How do Jesus' words, "Neither do I condemn you" and "Go now and leave your life of sin," work together? What do they reveal about the relationship between grace and transformation?

Core 4 questions:

- **What is Jesus saying to you?**
 - How do you feel about what he is saying?
 - What are you going to do in response?
 - Who will you share this with?
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- Revisit and add to your prayer list, then pray for one another.