

Oceanside Connect Group Outline

Week of October 11th 2015



Key Scripture

John 8:1-11, ESV

¹Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴they said to him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?” ⁶This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, **“Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.”** ⁸And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus stood up and said to her, **“Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”** ¹¹She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, **“Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”**

Discussion questions from this week’s sermon

It has been said: “Christians shoot their wounded.” What is meant by this? To what extent has this been true in your experience?

The Old Testament law (Leviticus 20:10) specifies that in cases of adultery both the man and the woman were to be put to death. Why do you think the religious leaders only brought the woman before Jesus?

In what way was this whole exercise a trap that was set for Jesus? What would have happened if he would have answered “yes” to their question? What would have happened if he had answered “no” to their question?

What do you imagine Jesus was writing on the ground? Why don’t you think John chose to let us know what Jesus wrote?

How did Jesus’ response avoid the trap of a “yes” or “no” reply? Why did the oldest in the crowd leave first?

Ephesians 4:15 calls Christians to “speak the truth in love.” In what ways was Jesus’ words to this woman a perfect balance of both?

What can you learn from Jesus here about how to help a friend who has been trapped in sin?

God accepts and loves us “as is.” (Romans 5:8) Does that reality free you to change, or does it just reinforce your bad behaviour?

Take Home

Are there any previous sins in your life that you have put up in the way of moving forward in what God has for you?

What hope do we have in Jesus if He dealt with the adulterous person in this way?

How can we be set free like this woman?