

**DAILY TIME****SECTION 1 | JOHN 8:1-11**

The way Jesus lived his life here on Earth made him appear to be living “against the grain.” He didn’t do life as the people watching him may have wanted him to, but he lived a life counter to those around him. We see that played out here with a woman caught in the act of adultery. The Pharisees (male religious leaders) dragged the woman to Jesus in the temple courts hoping he would condemn her. The men used the law of Moses as their measuring stick to condemn this woman caught in sin, knowing that her punishment must be death. The Pharisees are trying to trap Jesus here. They want him to contradict the law that they so rigidly follow. But, that wasn’t Jesus’ message.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>2</sup>At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup>The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup>and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup>In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” <sup>6</sup>They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

<sup>7</sup>When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” <sup>8</sup>Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

<sup>9</sup>At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

<sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

<sup>11</sup>“No one, sir,” she said.

“Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

- ❓ What characteristics of Jesus are displayed here that contradict how you view God?
- ❓ Who do you relate to most in this story? The woman caught in adultery or the pharisees?
- ❓ Sit with the Lord and ask for the Holy Spirit to give you a word of grace for wherever you are in your journey with Him today. Write your prayer below.

---

## **SECTION 2 | JOHN 8:3-8**

Sometimes we fall into a trap of the enemy and begin to project characteristics onto Jesus that we have created in our own mind. We might think God is something or someone who is far off and distant. Maybe we only think of him as a God of judgment or as

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.

a God who is to condemn his creation. But, when we dissect the Scripture a little more, we start to see the true heart of the Father.

<sup>3</sup>The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup>and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup>In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?”

<sup>6</sup>They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

<sup>7</sup>When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” <sup>8</sup>Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

❓ The first reaction Jesus has when the woman is brought to him is to bend down and start to write in the dust. What do you think he wrote?

❓ Where in your life has Jesus bent down to meet you? What do you think he would write about you?

---

### **SECTION 3 | JOHN 8:9-11, PSALM 113:8-12**

One of the most beautiful things about the love of Jesus is that it’s unconditional. He doesn’t look at us and define us by our sin. No one wants to be remembered for the worst thing they have ever done. He looks upon us with love, knowing that although we are sinners we have been washed clean by the blood of Jesus on the

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

cross. Paul writes in Romans that “while we were yet sinners” Christ died for us.

### **JOHN 8:9-11**

<sup>9</sup>At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

<sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?”

<sup>11</sup>“No one, sir,” she said.

“Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

### **PSALM 113:8-12**

<sup>8</sup>The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.

<sup>9</sup>He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;

<sup>10</sup>he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;

<sup>12</sup>as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

❓ What does forgiveness mean to you?

❓ Jesus didn’t condemn the woman, nor did he want her to continue to live in sin. How do you respond to the forgiveness and sacrifice Jesus made for you in your own life?



❓ How can you move forward today, knowing that Jesus wants to love you wholly and completely as you are, but loves you too much to leave you as you are?

---

## GROUP TIME

### WEEK 3 - JESUS WITNESSES THE WALK OF SHAME

We grow up in a culture that immediately puts pressure on us to perform. Whatever we do, we want to do it well in order to please other people because that's how we were raised to behave. When we fail—and we will—we feel shame for not performing at the level of excellence we hold ourselves to. In college, the level required for excellence is raised and comparison becomes so easy. We see others excelling in areas where we are lacking.

Shame is what we feel when we fail to perform at the standard of perfection we hold ourselves to. It can be a holy emotion directing our attention to something we have done wrong, but it can also be used by the enemy to blind us to the true heart of God. The enemy convinces us that we are not loved when we fail. This week we're walking through how Jesus encounters a woman caught in adultery. Her shame might be different than our own or it might not be. Whatever our own shame, notice how the response of Jesus is different from that of the Pharisees.

### JOHN 8:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.



A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.

<sup>2</sup>At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. <sup>3</sup>The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group <sup>4</sup>and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. <sup>5</sup>In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” <sup>6</sup>They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. <sup>7</sup>When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” <sup>8</sup>Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup>At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. <sup>10</sup>Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” <sup>11</sup>“No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

❓ Where specifically do you see the heart of God in this passage? Which verses?

.....

❓ Why do you think the woman was brought to be stoned but not the man? Does Jesus address this?

A series of 25 horizontal dotted lines for writing.

❓ This woman probably felt extreme fear and shame when she was dragged before the men. How does Jesus' response interact and relate to those emotions in her?

.....

❓ Why do you think John included the small detail that Jesus bent down to meet the woman?

.....

❓ In fact, there was a person at the scene who was without sin. But he didn't throw a rock at the woman. Jesus didn't condemn her. But nor did He agree with her sin. How might this affect how we live? How does this affect how we treat others?

.....

### **LIVING IT OUT**

As a group, decide how you're going to apply something from this week's discussion. Write out what you decide here.

A series of 25 horizontal dotted lines for writing.