



CONVERSATIONS
*what is Jesus
saying to you?*

THE ADULTERY CONVERSATION

March 4th, 2018

TEXT: JOHN 8:1-11 ESV

Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given.

¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

- John 1:16-17 NIV

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

- Romans 15:7 NIV

LESSONS FROM A LADY, A LYNCH MOB, AND OUR LORD

1. WE SHOULD AVOID THE ROAD TO RUIN.

- DREAMS
- DISAPPOINTMENTS
- DESIRES
- DEATH
- DECEPTION
- DARKNESS
- DOOM

You can buy an hour with a whore for a loaf of bread, but a wanton woman may well eat you alive. Can you build a fire in your lap and not burn your pants? Can you walk barefoot on hot coals and not get blisters? It's the same when you have sex with your neighbor's wife: Touch her and you'll pay for it. No excuses...Adultery is a brainless act, soul-destroying, self-destructive; Expect a bloody nose, a black eye, and a reputation ruined for good. For jealousy detonates rage in a cheated husband; wild for revenge, he won't make allowances. Nothing you say or pay will make it all right; neither bribes nor reason will satisfy him.. - Proverbs 6:26-35 MSG

2. WE SHOULD ASK IF WE ARE STONE-THROWERS.

Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults — unless, of course, you want the same treatment. ² That critical spirit has a way of boomeranging. ³ It's easy to see a smudge on your neighbor's face and be oblivious to the ugly sneer on your own. ⁴ Do you have the nerve to say, 'Let me wash your face for you,' when your own face is distorted by contempt? ⁵ It's this whole traveling road-show mentality all over again, playing a holier-than-thou part instead of just living your part. Wipe that ugly sneer off your own face, and you might be fit to offer a washcloth to your neighbor. - Matthew 7:1-5 MSG

- A SELF-RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENTALISM
- A BITTER HEART OF UNFORGIVENESS
- AN IMPATIENT SUPERIOR ATTITUDE
- AN US/THEM MINDSET

3. WE SHOULD ADHERE TO THE POSTURE OF ACCEPTANCE.

“Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. ¹⁹He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; ²⁰a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; ²¹and in his name the Gentiles will hope.”
- Matthew 12:18-21 ESV

ON THE HORNS OF A DIVINE DILEMMA

- A POLITICAL DILEMMA
- A SOCIAL DILEMMA
- A THEOLOGICAL DILEMMA
- A PERSONAL DILEMMA

...But that is not what God desires; rather, he devises ways so that a banished person does not remain banished from him. - 2 Samuel 14:14 NIV

But people cannot do any work that will make them right with God. So they must trust in him, who makes even evil people right in his sight...- Romans 4:5 NCV

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ. - 2 Corinthians 5:21 NLT

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- Romans 8:1 ESV

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK...

- Memorize **Matthew 12:20**.
- Refuse to be a stone-thrower and embrace the posture of acceptance.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

WALK THE TALK

A Small Group Guide

Read John 8:1-11.

1. Who were the tattletales in your life growing up? How did they make you feel?
2. Why did the authorities bring only the woman caught in adultery? Read the law on adultery in Leviticus 20:10 and Deuteronomy 22:22-24. How did they start off in a compromised position?
3. When you think of Jesus being in a Divine Dilemma (see notes above), how do you see the religious leaders setting Jesus up for a trap?
4. We will never know what Jesus wrote in the sand that day, but if you were to guess, what do you think it was? What do you think about these Scriptures (Ex 31:18; Dan 5:5-6, 24-28) describing God writing with His finger?
5. What made the older depart first after the question Jesus asked in verse 7?
6. What does this story teach us about the twin virtues of grace and truth that John so emphasizes in his Gospel (see John 1:17)? How does Jesus use them both to address the woman?
7. What do we learn from Jesus about valuing someone as a person and not just seeing them as a sinner? What do you think about this?