

Let Me Ask You A Question Has No One Condemned You?

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

"1 but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. 3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst 4 they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. 5 Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" 6 This 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. 7 And 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." 8 And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. 9 But 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. 10 Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" 11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more." - John 8:1-11 (ESV)

"21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law." – Romans 3:21-28 (ESV)

Search for the "Renewal Church Denver" app or "St. John's Denver" app in your app store.

More of God's truth all week long at renewaldenver.tv and sjdenver.tv

Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- Name someone you know who forgives easily.
- Can you forgive easily? What makes it hard sometimes?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read John 8:1-11. What is the question that Jesus asks the woman caught in adultery?
- In John 8:1-11, how does the woman reply and what does Jesus say to her next? Why is this whole thing such a big deal?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- In John 8:11, what do you think it meant to this woman to hear those words from Jesus, "Neither do I?" Have you ever been forgiven in such a way that you felt liberated afterwards?
- The world likes to play judge and jury but how and why does Jesus have the final say over our guilt?
- Is there someone that you think you're superior to? How does this passage challenge our high view of self?
- Why is it sometimes easier to forgive others than accept God's forgiveness?
- What does Jesus say about sinful lifestyles moving forward (v.11)?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- Who is someone you need to forgive? How can you show grace like Jesus did this week?
- What is something that you need forgiveness for? How can you surrender it to Jesus?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.

Group Prayer Ideas

Pray for Each Other

- Everyone share their prayer requests before entering into the time of prayer;
- As you open a time of spontaneous prayer, ask people to pray for each other's requests / not their own;
- *Option: Have one person record the group's prayers in a prayer journal. Periodically review the journal to see just how much God answers prayer!*
- *Option: Conclude with the Lord's Prayer or Apostle's Creed.*
- *Option: Do a "Prayer Exchange," assigning people to pray for one another this week, & text as you do.*

Responsive Psalm Prayer

- Choose a psalm (ex: 13, 116, 136, 139, etc.);
- Have the leader and the people pray through the Psalm by trading verses responsively, OR go around the circle and have each person take the next verse.

Missional Prayer

- Have everyone go around and pray specifically for a non-Christian friend, neighbor, co-worker, etc.
- *Option: Have everyone use the "MissionHub" app to set a prayer reminder for that person OR write the name on a 3x5 index card, take it with them and put it somewhere that they'll see it.*

Category Prayer

- The leader guides the group by inviting spontaneous prayer around a "category" at a time, allowing a couple of minutes per category;

Ex: Relational Circles

Our Families
Our Church
Our Neighbors
Our Co-Workers
Our City
Our Country
Our World

Ex: A.C.T.S.

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

Ex: Lord's Prayer

Petition 1: Holy Be Your Name
Petition 2: Your Kingdom Come
Petition 3: Your Will Be Done
Petition 4: Give us Today our Daily Bread
Petition 5: Forgive us our Trespasses
Petition 6: Lead us Not into Temptation
Petition 7: Deliver us from Evil

Ex: Healing

Physical
Emotional
Spiritual

Simultaneous Prayer

- Set a timer (ex: 3 min) and ask everyone to pray simultaneously (out loud) until the timer runs out.

Timed Prayer

- Set a timer (ex: 20 min) and then go around the circle taking turns praying until the timer runs out.