

## Good Morning Church Family – Journey Through John

Read John 8:11

Devo Thought: Yesterday, we read about a woman who was caught in the act of sin (specifically adultery), and instead of a death sentence, she receives grace from Jesus. I left the very last sentence out yesterday because I wanted to address it today. Jesus, after telling her that she isn't condemned, says, "go, and from now on sin no more." Too often, people make the mistake of thinking that the grace of Jesus means that he doesn't really care how we live. We make the mistake of believing that grace is simply a "get-out-of-jail-free" card. This is never the picture of divine grace we see in Scripture. You are not condemned is always followed with now, go and live in the freedom of obedience to divine grace. Paul talks about this in Romans 6. He says in Romans 6:4, "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." Grace leads us to a transformed life, a new life, in which we walk in the freedom of serving God. Later in the same chapter, Paul says, "Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?" In other words, grace frees us not so that we can go on sinning without consequences but instead so that we can go on to serve God with the gift of this newly transformed life. Grace means we can live in the freedom of "neither do I condemn you; go, and from now sin no more." Will we choose this way?

Let us thank God for the freedom to serve Him by following Jesus.