



THINGS JESUS NEVER SAID

THINGS JESUS NEVER SAID, PART 2: GOD JUST WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY

Everyone wants to be happy. It's built into us. But the problem comes when our pursuit of happiness leads us away from holiness. Culture tells us, "Do what makes you happy," but Jesus never said that. He didn't die on the cross to make us *comfortable*—He came to make us *holy*, whole, and free. When we chase happiness at all costs, we settle for momentary pleasure instead of eternal purpose. This week, we'll look at one of the most powerful stories in Scripture—when Jesus meets a woman caught in adultery—and discover that the path to true joy is not through self-gratification but through surrender and grace.

BIG IDEA: Holiness is the pathway to true happiness and joy.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever thought about dropping everything and following your heart? What did you end up doing?
2. What do you think make phrases like "you do you," "YOLO," and "follow your heart" so popular?
3. What's something that makes you happy right now—something simple or small that brings you joy?
4. *With your Bible or YouVersion, [read John 8:1-11](#).*

¹ Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, ² but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. ³ As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. ⁴ "Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?" ⁶ They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. ⁷ They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "**All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!**" ⁸ Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. ⁹ When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. ¹⁰ Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "**Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?**" ¹¹ "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "**Neither do I. Go and sin no more.**" [John 8:1-11 \(NLT\)](#)

5. How do you imagine this moment felt for the woman? For the crowd? For Jesus?
6. Why do you think the religious leaders were so eager to accuse her? Why do you think it's easier to see other people's sins than our own?
7. What kind of "no-win" situation did this create for Jesus? Can you think of a time when someone tried to use your faith or values against you?
8. What do you think Jesus wrote in the sand—and why? What does His response teach us about grace and hypocrisy?
9. Why is it important that Jesus said *both* "Neither do I condemn you" *and* "Go and sin no more"? What happens if we only focus on one of those two statements?
10. CJ said, "*Sin promises satisfaction at the cost of disobedience to God and eventual pain to you.*" How have you seen this truth play out in your life or in the lives of people around you? Why do we keep falling for things that never truly satisfy?
11. Psalm 16:11 says, "*You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.*" What does this verse teach about where true joy and pleasure come from? How does living in God's presence redefine what it means to be "happy"?
12. C.J. said, "*If you find yourself wondering why you aren't happy living for the things of this world, maybe you should lower your expectations of earth.*" What does that mean to you? How can this perspective change the way you handle disappointment?

MOVING FORWARD

Happiness isn't found in what you have, achieve, or feel—it's found in who you follow. God doesn't want you to be temporarily happy; He wants you to be eternally whole. The woman caught in sin walked away forgiven and free, not because she followed her heart, but because she followed *Jesus*. You can, too. Step out of shame, walk in grace, and pursue the joy only He can give.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.

Psalm 16:11