

**Anxious for Nothing**  
**What You Think About God**  
**John 8:2-12**

1. Name someone who has shown you unconditional love. Share a memory of how that person displayed selfless love to you.
2. **Read John 8:2-6.** Describe the setting of this story. Where was Jesus and what was he doing before the Pharisees came to him?
3. Put yourself in this woman's sandals. What do you think this woman thought and felt as they "made her stand before the group"?
4. **Read Leviticus 20:10.** Why would God command such a harsh punishment?<sup>1</sup> Does adultery have more than just emotional consequences?<sup>2</sup>
5. **Read John 8:6-8.** Why do humans have a tendency to villainize the guilty? Why do we need to be regularly reminded of the truth in verse 7?
6. **Read John 8:9-11.** Take a moment to let this scene sink in. What thoughts and feelings do you think the woman was experiencing as she saw her accusers walk away?
7. How does this scene directly connect to what Jesus accomplished at the cross?
8. **Read 1 Corinthians 8:1.** How did knowledge puff up the religious leaders in John 8:2-11)? How did Jesus' love build up the woman caught in adultery?
9. **Read Romans 2:4.** What truth does this verse communicate? How does rightly understanding God's unconditional love motivate us to turn from our sin?
10. What changes do you think this woman experienced in her life after her encounter with Jesus? In what ways does understanding God's love open up new beginnings for us?
11. How does understanding God's unconditional love impact our relationships with others?
12. When was the last time you praised God for his unconditional love towards you? Who is one person in your life that needs to more deeply experience the love of God?

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<sup>1</sup> Contrary to popular belief, adultery is not a victimless crime. God may have actually been protecting countless other innocent lives by sternly punishing the guilty. In ancient cultures, adultery could potentially cause great bloodshed. Aside from the emotional fallout, adultery could directly lead to disputes over property and birthing rights. This could quickly spiral into tribal disputes that would cost hundreds of innocent people their lives. In other words, adultery kills. God was trying to protect his people by instituting strong consequences.

<sup>2</sup> For an illustration of the deathly consequences of unchecked adultery, see the story of David & Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11-12).