

Take You There

God is ready, will take care of us, and will set us free.

Introduction: Priming the pump for tonight's discussion.

- How would you summarize the central idea of this week's message in one sentence? Was there anything significant that stood out to you from the message that you would share with the group? (Hint: What was your personal "aha" moment?)
- Was there anything that you strongly agreed/disagreed with, and why?

Exploration: Questions to guide our group discussion.

- We were reminded this week just how important it is to take time daily to fellowship with the Father. Let's discuss the importance of daily time set apart to seek the Lord through prayer, personal worship, and Bible reading. What would happen to our physical bodies if we only ate one meal each week? What do you suppose happens to us spiritually if Sunday church is our only meal each week? How does the example of Jesus at the Temple early in the morning (V.2) reinforce this idea?
- One of the significant lessons from the teaching this week was that the religious leaders brought the woman caught in the very act of adultery, but they overlooked the sin of the man. How do Leviticus 20:10 and Deuteronomy 22:22 speak into their hypocrisy? How does their hypocrisy demonstrate their true motives...and even their willingness to twist the law to trap the Savior?
- The Scribes and Pharisees had most certainly played out every conceivable answer from the Lord. If Jesus had disagreed with the law, then they had Him for breaking the law. If Jesus agreed and gave her over to stoning, then he was in violation of Roman law (John 18:31) since only the Romans could pronounce the death sentence. How did Jesus' unexpected answer both uphold the standard of the law, but also demonstrate His compassion and forgiveness? What can we learn from this?
- When the woman was accused before Christ, Jesus stooped down, wrote on the ground, and acted as though He didn't even hear them. Though there are numerous ideas about what Jesus might have written, the Bible simply does not say what Jesus wrote. Some people suggest that Jesus wrote their names, or their sins...and Bob suggested that Jesus stirred up the dust as a symbolic gesture in view of Numbers 5:17. Let's not miss the meaning by focusing on the mystery. What is the larger and more significant issue in this text? (Hint: Hypocrisy in judging others is forbidden)

- Perhaps the biggest take away this week is that Jesus forgave the woman who was caught in the act of adultery. He forgave her sin because He is God, and then he admonished her to repent...to go and sin no more. What a wonderful demonstrative moment of God's amazing grace! How does God's grace cover us, bring us peace, and set us free when we confess our sins with a heart of repentance unto God?

Additional Scriptures for Deeper Study:

- Isaiah 29:13 Hypocrisy
- Matthew 15:8-9 Lip service to God.
- Matthew 7:3-5 Planks and Logs.

Application: How can I apply this to my life this week?

- Let's take time for a spiritual check up! How are you doing with your personal walk with the Lord? How would you rate your walk with God right now? What is the one thing that you could change today that would impact your walk with God for the good?
- How can a Christian take on the heart of Jesus to hold the standard of right and wrong before God, while also considering the compassion, forgiveness, and grace of God? Christians must find a balance between holding to the truth and loving others who fall short of righteousness. How does Ephesians 4:15 speak into this truth?
- Is there a skeleton in your closet, or perhaps a present personal challenge, where you have been accused by your enemy, perhaps even Satan, unto God? Is this a situation where you would have a talk with Jesus about it, experience His wonderful forgiveness and grace, and go and sin no more?