

WHAT MADE JESUS MAD?

What Made Jesus Mad? – When Judgement Gets in the Way/When Graceless Religion Gets in the Way Week 5

Preached 11/21/21

Opening Question:

Losing track of time can be really joyful . . . or really terrible! Share about a moment in your life when you totally lost track of time.

Discussion:

If you were unable to worship with us on Sunday, you can watch this week's sermon at my.worthingtoncc.org/listen.

1. Read John 8:1-11. As you read, remember that Paul describes Jesus in Colossians 1:15 as *the visible image of the invisible God*. In other words, the way Jesus acts, reacts, thinks, and speaks is the way God the Father does. What surprises you about Jesus in this passage? How do the same qualities make you rethink your mental picture of God the Father . . . both *who* and *how* He is?
2. *Jesus stooped down*. Jesus demonstrated that He was willing to go lower to meet with messy people. Talk about the other times you can recall Jesus humbly “going lower” to meet with people who needed Him. How has He done this for you personally?
3. *Jesus wrote in the dust*. Some scholars believe Jesus wrote different sins in the dust. How does it affect the way you treat people when you remember *you've* been forgiven?
4. *Jesus leads with grace and lands with truth*. He extends grace, saying “I don't condemn you,” and truth by saying, “Sin no more.” Jesus defines love as: Grace + Truth = Love.
5. Talk about this statement: We find comfort in God's grace and we find counsel in God's truth. We desperately need both, but we need one before the other.
6. Read Galatians 6:1-3. Paul reminds us here that we need to help one another live in freedom from sin – the freedom Jesus bought for us. How can we offer this kind of help to others? How can we find it for ourselves when we need it?
7. *There is more grace in God than sin in people*. When we live from an awareness of this fact, how does it look practically? How can we be *second-chancers* instead of *stone-throwers*?

Next Steps:

Read Lamentations 3:22-23. *We worship a “never” and an “every” God*. We worship a God whose love *never* fails and his compassion is available to us *every* morning. What would it look like if we, as followers of Jesus, extend love and compassion in the same way?

Next Week: What Made Jesus Mad? - When Prejudice Gets in the Way