

Life Group Discussion Guide What Do You Say? John 7:50-8:20 Doug Slachter – February 4, 2024

<u>Main thought:</u> We often see the world and others from a limited and outward perspective. When we meet Jesus, He reveals a new perspective that will change us on the inside.

<u>Ice-Breaker</u> (suggested sharing time 5-10 min)

• Share one of your favorite fun facts.

Week in Review (suggested sharing time 5-10 min)

What is a challenging circumstance that God has been teaching you through lately?

Digging In (suggested time 10 min)

Read John 7:50-7:53 together and respond to the following questions:

- Why was Nicodemus concerned that Jesus hadn't been given a trial? What was the Pharisees' response?
- Why was Nicodemus at odds with the other Pharisees? What caused him to see things differently from them?
- How does this attitude and perspective of the Pharisees carry over into the interaction with the adulterous woman and with Jesus as he taught later in our passage?

<u>Further Reflection</u> (suggested time 15 minutes)

Read John 8:1-11 and respond to the following questions:

- Why was this an illegitimate trial of the adulterous woman? How did Jesus turn the Pharisees' own accusation back on them?
- What are the implications of Jesus' statement to the woman of "Neither do I condemn you. Go and leave your life of sin." What makes this so weighty?

Read John 8:12-20 and respond to the following questions:

- How was Jesus' statement of "I Am the light of the world" related to other statements He had made in previous chapters? (See John 6:35, 4:10)
- How was the Pharisees' perspective of the Law incomplete, and how does Jesus fulfill the requirements of the Law for us?

Application (suggested time 15 minutes)

- Thinking about your own perspective, are you closer to the Pharisees (someone who is highly influenced by guilt and rule-following) or the adulterous woman (someone who more often bends or breaks the rules for the benefit of yourself or others)?
- How does Jesus respond to each of these two perspectives without breaking the Law or condemning everyone? How can you adjust your perspective and response to match Jesus'?
- Looking at the three things that each of the three groups of people discovered when they met Jesus (truth, mercy, the law), which have you experienced the most in your personal relationship with Jesus? Which of these do you need to express more of in your own life?

Pray for each other. (Suggested time 10 minutes)