

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

With One Voice, In Jesus Name, Amazing Grace, Not for a Moment, Whom Shall I Fear?

WELCOME

Loving Grace. Share your personal experience of grace in the light of Jesus.

WORD

JOHN 8:7-11

⁷ So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."

⁸ And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. ¹⁰ When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord."

And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

The scribes and Pharisees brought a case to Jesus: a woman caught in adultery. They asked if she should be stoned to death. They clearly wanted to entrap Jesus with his answer.

Should Jesus serve justice or give mercy to the woman? Scholars believe that this could probably be the greatest entrapment of Jesus because it involves these two major themes. Justice executes the consequence of breaking the law, but mercy withholds it.

Did Jesus abide by Moses' law (**Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:23-24**), which could get Him arrested by the Romans (**John 18:31**)? Or did He show his signature act of compassion, which would mean that He was not following the Law of Moses?

BE CALM (JOHN 8:1-6)

From our perspective, it would seem to be a stressful situation. But Jesus responded calmly. He was aware of what was going on. He knew that the legal basis for this case was deficient. The Law of Moses required both the woman and the man caught in adultery to be presented along with at least two eyewitnesses. There must also be a priest to write down the law that was violated. Besides these, the case must be brought before the judges in a trial court.

Because Jesus knew the big picture, he remained calm. This is why He was calm amidst a storm (**Luke 8:22-25**) and during His arrest (**John 18:1-11**).

Whatever stressful situation we may have, we should respond just as Jesus did. We should remember the big picture – who God is in our life, what He has done and what He has promised to do – and have courage.

As we follow Jesus, we should keep calm and just keep moving forward. We need to remember that God is in control therefore we should be calm and remember that He is able to take us through the toughest of challenges.

THE JESUS CHOICE (JOHN 8:7-8)

Jesus was given two options: to stone or not to stone. Instead, he took the third option, "the Jesus Choice." He said, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." (**v.7**)

All who heard Jesus were convicted; one by one they left. Jesus was left alone with the woman.

The "Jesus Choice" is a God-honoring resolution to the conflict. When faced with challenges, do you try to do what is right? Remember that no matter the circumstance, God will provide the way (**1 Corinthians 10:13**).

WORD (cont'd)

JESUS GIVES GRACE (JOHN 8:9-11)

Jesus extends grace to all of us. Upon seeing this sinful woman, broken and abused, Jesus showed her mercy, respect, and grace. But despite this, He did not break the law. The case was dropped, since all the woman's accusers had left (**v.10**).

But Jesus, even as He extended mercy, did not deny that the adulterous woman was guilty. She came to Jesus broken. Calling him "Lord" expressed her surrender to Jesus, her Savior. It was a gesture of a repentant heart.

When Jesus finally told the woman, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more," we see a moment of grace at its highest (**v.11**). This grace was not cheap! We should not take God's grace lightly. Jesus will not condemn our sins, because He was condemned in our place.

"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (**Romans 8:1**).

Jesus offers the same grace to all of us and calls us as well to sin no more. Come to Him, and pursue change.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- 1. Grace Unlimited.** What is the main message of the passage (**John 8:1-11**)? Which verse struck you?
- 2. Transforming Grace.** Have you personally received the grace of Jesus? How have you been transformed by it?
- 3. Channel of Grace.** Is receiving God's grace the most significant moment of your life? How do you let people know about this truth?

WORKS

THE JESUS CHOICE

Whatever is your season of life today, think about at least three major stressors affecting you. What is "the Jesus Choice" according to the Scriptures in your situation?

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends