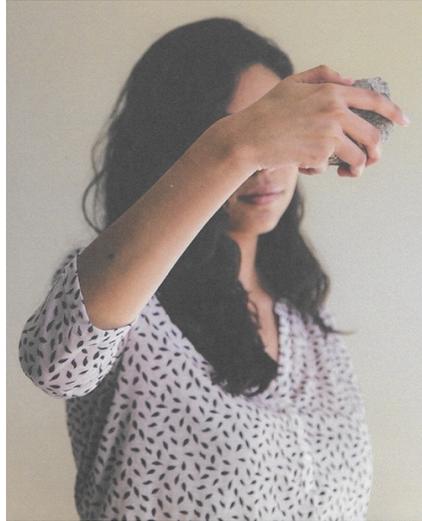


## 031421 Growth Group Study

### I Do Not Condemn You

John 7:53-8:11



**Background:** Last week we heard Jesus' invitation to come and drink his living water. This week, we get an example of how this living water washes over someone. The religious leaders bring a woman caught in adultery to Jesus to have him pronounce his verdict on her. What will he do? Will he condemn her to death or will he let her go free? Join us this Sunday as we explore this ugly-turned-beautiful scene.

#### Sermon Text (ESV):

#### John 7:53-8:11

##### *I. The Context (7:53-8:2)*

*53 They went each to his own house, 8 1 but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them.*

##### *II. Caught! (3-6a)*

*3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst 4 they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. 5 Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what*

*do you say?” 6a This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him.*

### *III. Jesus’ Response to the Crowd (6b-9)*

*6 b Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. 7 And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” 8 And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. 9 But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him.*

### *IV. Jesus’ Response to the Woman (10-11)*

*10 Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” 11 She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”*

### **Discussion Questions:**

- Preparation
  - As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you most?
  - What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- Sermon Questions
  - Shawn shared about a time he was recently “caught” and how he was berated and humiliated. Can you think of a time when you were “caught”? Was grace offered, or were you shamed as he was?
  - As believers in Christ, we are not to demonize, objectify or create “others”. Yet, most of us have that person/those people who we want to “cancel”, and find it hard to believe they, too, are made in the image of God. Towards what person or group do you need the Lord to change/soften your heart?
  - Jesus begins with grace, not condemnation. In what situation in your life – whether at home, work, volunteering, etc. – do you need the Lord’s strength/mercy to begin with grace, not condemnation?
  - More broadly, how can we as a church family in Cupertino be better known for our grace? At the cross we see the greatest picture of grace, as Jesus took all condemnation on Himself, so that we now have the power to “Go, and sin no more”.