

GENESIS

begin. belong. believe.

a story of compassion... John 8:1-11

Big Idea

John recounts for us an encounter where a woman caught in her sin experiences the compassion of God rather than his judgment. Through this experience Jesus forces the audience (and us) to examine their own life in light of the sin of this woman. The compassion that Jesus offers is not simply one that overlooks sin and unrighteousness, but offers a new life (“Go now and leave your life or sin”) through dwelling in the compassion & forgiveness of God that is ours because of the work of Jesus.

Questions for Discussions

1. It seems that we are really good at pointing out other people’s sin and mistakes. Why does it seem so easy for us to throw stones at other people rather than examine our own life? Is it possible that we use this as a way of avoiding our own sin?
2. The condemnation we deserved was laid upon Jesus, so rather than receiving from God condemnation for our sin, we can receive His compassion by placing our faith in His Son Jesus. What would our lives look like if we lived as ones who were ‘not condemned’? How might the compassion that we receive in Jesus motivate us to live differently? How might His compassion help us in our battle against sin?
3. In *Romans 2:4* Paul rhetorically asks *“Do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness leads you toward repentance?”* Is the kindness (compassion) of God causing us to stop sinning, or do we continue in our sin and take the love & compassion of God for granted? What message do we send to God if we take His kindness (compassion) for granted?
4. Often when we have not dealt with the depth of our own sin we do not see the depth of God’s compassion and love for us. That is, the more we understand our own sin the more we can rejoice in not being condemned for that sin. How well are you doing at examining your own life in order to name your sin and thus rejoice in God? Is it possible that your inability to live amazed at the grace/compassion of God is because we don’t yet know the greatness from which we’ve been saved?
See Luke 7:36-50
5. Who in our life needs to experience the compassion of Jesus through us; rather, than our condemnation and judgment?