

John 7:53-8:11 Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To explore our own reactions when our sin is exposed and to learn to come to Jesus in our sin.

Icebreaker Suggestion: Were you always getting caught or getting away with things when you were growing up? Was that good or bad for your life?

Transition: Getting caught is a situation we fear. We also spend time trying to make sure we don't get caught. But, God wants to use our experiences of getting caught for good purposes in our life. We see that in the passage our sermon was on this past Sunday telling us of the woman who was caught in adultery.

Discussion

1. What responses might we consider when we get caught?

Read John 7:53-8:4.

2. Here this woman gets caught in sexual sin. Sexual sin is rooted in what we think sex is. Shay described sex as "a way of expressing to our spouse absolute and complete and exclusive and permanent commitment." What does our culture think sex is? What consequences result from our view of sex?

Even despite our culture's loose moral views, there is still a lot of shame and scandal wrapped up in these issues. We tempt each other, then accuse each other.

Read John 8:5.

3. Shay described this situation as a trap. What dangers are there if Jesus has the woman stoned? What dangers are there if Jesus frees her?

Read John 8:6-9.

4. Shay pointed out that Jesus is condemning not moral assessment, but hypocritical judgment. What does hypocritical judgment look like?

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5. Is Jesus disregarding the Old Testament law by not stoning this woman who has been caught in adultery? How does he satisfy the law?

Read John 8:10-11.

6. What new motive does Jesus give for fighting our sin?

Summary Questions

7. What implications does this passage have for how we view getting caught? For how we view and help others who have been caught?

Sharing and Prayer Time

Consider breaking up into pairs to confess and pray for each other.