

Small Group Discussion Guide

Text: John 7:53–8:11

Opening Question

Before diving into the passage, invite everyone to share:

- Have you ever felt publicly exposed, misunderstood, or unfairly judged? How did you respond?
 - Alternatively: When have you seen someone else treated harshly—and what did it stir up in you?
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Read the Passage Aloud

John 7:53–8:11

(Encourage group members to visualize the scene as it unfolds—notice the characters, the setting, and the tension.)

Group Discussion Questions

1. Jesus Meets Us Where We Are

“Where are your accusers?”

- What stands out to you about Jesus’ posture and presence in this story?
 - How is Jesus’ non-anxious presence a contrast to the chaos of the moment?
 - In what ways have you experienced Jesus meeting you in your place of shame, sin, or fear?
 - The woman stayed—even though she could have run. Why do you think she did? Would you have?
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2. Jesus Calls Us to Turn

“Neither do I condemn you...”

- What is the difference between *condoning* and *not condemning*?
- How does Jesus balance grace and truth in this story? What can we learn from this for our own relationships?
- Have you ever mistaken silence for softness or delayed conviction for approval?

- Where in your life is Jesus saying, “You can’t keep living like this, but you also don’t have to die like this”?
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3. Jesus Leads Us Into New Life

“Go now and leave your life of sin.”

- What do you think it meant for this woman to “go” and “leave her life of sin”? What might that look like practically today?
 - Do you view Jesus’ grace as a permission slip or a pathway to transformation? Why?
 - What keeps us from stepping into the “new life” Jesus offers—even when we’ve been freed?
 - What habits, identities, or relationships might Jesus be calling you to leave behind?
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Reflect + Respond

Pair & Share:

Split into pairs (or small triads) and share honestly:

- One area where you’ve experienced Jesus’ freedom.
- One area where you still feel trapped, afraid, or unsure how to walk forward.

Prayer Prompt:

Spend time praying for each other using this format:

- **Thank You, Jesus, for meeting me in...**
 - **I need Your courage to leave behind...**
 - **Lead me into...**
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Practice for the Week

- **Read John 8:1–11 each morning** and pray:
“Jesus, show me what You’ve set me free from—and what You’re still calling me to leave behind.”
 - **Share your story of freedom** with someone else this week. If you haven’t shared it before, start with one trusted person.
 - **Fast from condemnation.** When you feel tempted to judge yourself or someone else this week, pause and ask:
Am I throwing a stone—or stepping into grace?
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Final Reflection Question (Group or Personal)

What part of your story is still stuck in the courtroom, waiting to hear the words, “Neither do I condemn you”? What’s keeping you from walking away in freedom?