

For the ONE - The Condemned ONE

Introduction:

I cannot imagine her pain. Caught in the act of adultery, she is hauled out into the street to be stoned to death. Through her tears, and in her anguish, she sees her accusers arguing with a stranger. His face is furled in great concern, yet full of compassion. Her heart is beating out of her chest in fear. She is too frightened to hear their conversation or understand what is going on. The stranger gets down in the dirt, drawing words and symbols in the dust. He looks up, "you who are without sin, cast the first stone". In awe, she watches the violent mob, drop their rocks and walk away.

Then she looks this Jesus in the eyes. She has never seen such love, such grace. He asks her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one sir", she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you", Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

In this stunning account Jesus offers a woman, that awaited death, incredible grace. Our savior comes full of grace and truth (John 1:14). Because Jesus was full of grace, he offers us forgiveness and love on the cross we have not earned and do not deserve. Because Jesus was full of truth, we know he alone lived a sinless life, and was able to atone for our sins entirely. He forgives this woman and calls her, and those that wanted to trap him and put her to death, out of their lives of sin.

Read Your Bible

- Romans 5:12-21
- John 8:1-11

Apply God's Word to Your Life:

1. What, according to God's word, is grace?
2. What, according to God's word, is truth?
3. How is Jesus both grace and truth? What does that mean for us?
4. What do you think the woman caught in adultery was feeling and thinking? As she was hauled out before Jesus? After everyone left?
5. What do you think is the meaning of Romans 5? How does grace and righteousness come through Jesus?
6. Where have you experienced God's Grace? What was it like?
7. How do we, like Jesus, walk in God's Grace and Truth?

Reflecting on the text:

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

Pray

Father, we praise you for your grace. We ask Lord, in your love, you would guide us to live in your light and truth. Thank you for the forgiveness and love you offer us freely and unearned on the cross. Help us to share that same grace and truth with others. In Jesus name, Amen.