

## Digging Deeper into John 8:1-11

### Chat

- How do you react when you see someone doing something wrong?  
Do you judge or show mercy?
- Does it depend what it is and whether it was done to you or to others?



### Study

*You may find that this passage in your Bibles is in italics or smaller text. The earliest manuscripts we have don't include it. Some manuscripts place it somewhere else in John's Gospel and a few put it in Luke's Gospel. Because of other historical references, many theological scholars are confident that it is an account of a real incident but that John didn't write it.*

With that in mind, read John 8:1-11

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+8&version=NIV>

- What seems unfair about v.3-4? (See Deut.22:23-24)
- What are the teachers of the law and Pharisees trying to do (v.3-6)?
- What do you think the trap is?
- Why do you think Jesus began to write in the sand (v.6)? (We don't know what he wrote – you might like to use your imagination)
- The woman's accusers refuse to give up so how does Jesus answer them (v.7)?
  - What is clever about this?
- What does Jesus do next (v.8)
- What do the Pharisees and teachers of the law do (v.9)?
- Up to this point in the story, all the talking has been between the woman's accusers and Jesus. Now Jesus speaks to the woman herself.
  - What does he say (v.10-12)?
  - What do we learn about Jesus from this?



- How do you think the woman felt when Jesus allowed her to walk away?
- How do the Pharisees view the woman and how does Jesus view her?
- Do you think there's a tendency in our society to judge women more harshly than men for sexual sins? If yes, why do you think that is?

### Think

- You may have a past sin in your life which you feel people would judge you for if they knew. You may believe that God judges you. Jesus says, "I do not condemn you. Go now and leave your life of sin." He gives you a fresh start; a chance to move on.
- The woman in the story knew that she had done wrong and she knew what the penalty for that was. Imagine how her emotions would have changed as she realised that Jesus had saved her from that and would not condemn her.
  - Do you have an awareness of how the mercy and love of Jesus have saved you?
  - What is your response to him and how will you show that in your life this week?