

## Jesus, and True Freedom

April 10, 2022

### John 8:1-11

Issues regarding this text:

- Authenticity and biblical reliability
- Placement of the text
- Subject matter

Questions regarding the story:

- Where was the man of this story?
- What was the objective of the woman's accusers?
- Why did Jesus write on the ground?

The story's significance:

- The importance of the Law – marriage and adultery
- The extension of mercy

The problem of judgment – none are without condemnation  
Matthew 7:7, Romans 2:1, James 2:12

Keys to Freedom from Judgment and the Extension of Mercy

- Recognizing the importance of God's Word
- Recognizing the need for God's mercy
- Recognizing the source of true freedom John 8:31, 32, 36

Obstacles to true freedom

- Being slaves of the devil instead of children of God
- Not recognizing the deity of Jesus
  - The I AM who existed before Abraham
  - The I AM who spoke to Moses

Jesus' triumphal entry and true freedom

- His first coming introduces a kingdom of mercy
- His last coming finalizes a kingdom of triumph

*Receiving God's mercy today leads to freedom in sharing His mercy with others while looking for His final triumph tomorrow!*

## Sermon-based Small Group Discussion Questions

1. No doubt, after initial prayer together, you'll want to discuss the authenticity of this story as it appears in this gospel. Despite the controversy, what makes you believe the story is authentic?
2. Read the story together and then share what stands out to you. Comment on what appears to be the real reason the woman was brought to Jesus.
3. How is the story a classic example of who the sinful human heart acts toward others? What did Jesus and the apostles have to say about judging others? How is it evident that judgment is a common attitude and practice in the world around us?
4. Comment on what you perceive as judgmentalism being common in the church. Why is this so, and how do you think the rest of John 8 speaks to this issue?
5. Looking through the rest of the chapter, what were some of the reasons the Jews had a hard time believing in Jesus? What do you think of Jesus' interchange with the Jews concerning His identity? How does it reflect His mercy? His judgment?
6. How does the last verse (59) relate to what happened in the story at the beginning of the chapter?

Conclude your time together by reflecting on how PTC can be known as a place where mercy triumphs over judgement – *building a community in Christlikeness.*