INTRODUCTION

Ever since Chapter 5, the Pharisees have attempted to prove that Jesus is not the Messiah according to the Old Testament Scriptures. Being out-maneuvered in every debate, the Pharisees decide it’s time to set a trap. They illegally bring an adulterous woman before Jesus in an attempt to disprove He is Messiah – if they can’t debate Him on the law, maybe they can get Him to break the law. Instead, Jesus will master the law, rescue the girl, and dismiss the religious elite.

The Pharisees...

1. They didn’t have Jesus’ heart

2. They didn’t have Jesus’ eyes

3. They didn’t offer Jesus’ hope
Which would you rather experience as a result of something you did wrong — condemnation or grace? Is it easier or more difficult for you to extend grace to others when they have wronged you or do you only respond in condemnation? Does grace erase the consequences of wrong done or does God allow us to still experience the consequences of sin? Why or why not? When you are forgiven and experience grace in spite of your wrongs, what kind of loyalty should be produced toward the one who has forgiven you? How should that inform our loyalty to the Lord?

Did the Scribes and Pharisees actually respect Jesus as a religious teacher? Based on what we know about their hearts toward Jesus, what do you think they really wanted to happen in the situation? What did the Old Testament Law say about adultery? Why was the man not brought before Jesus, since adultery is a sin that involves two parties? Does the fact that the man is not present help identify this situation as a trap for Jesus?

How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees’ question? In what way is this the absolute best response that Jesus could have given in this situation? If Jesus agreed with the Pharisees that the woman should be stoned, how would that answer give the Pharisees additional charges against him? If Jesus suggested that the woman be let go and forgiven, how would that answer give the Pharisees additional charges against him? How should the reality of our sin and our faults guide us when we feel compelled to condemn others? How should Colossians 3:12-17 inform our hearts in this regard?

What does Jesus tell this woman as a result of her accusers leaving? What does it mean to be free of condemnation in life? How should freedom from condemnation cause you to live life differently? What is Jesus’ command to this woman as she goes from being condemned to experiencing freedom and grace? Does Jesus give us a license to sin through this story of grace? What does Paul say about the seriousness of sin and the proper response to grace in Romans? How should we live in light of grace?

Pray for our short-term mission trips happening this year. Please pray for logistics to go smooth, no issues with customs, passports, etc. Please pray there are no security level threats before or during our trips. Please pray for the health of our teams. Please pray for our Ministry Partners there on the field to be blessed by our teams. Please pray for our teams as they raise funds for their trips.

If you have any questions or need additional resources, email Pastor Aaron: aaron.miller@gracebaptist.org