



Wk 1 of 3: Jesus Said What?!
Sept 12, 2021

LEADER PREP

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to realize that it's not their job to condemn people but to follow Jesus' example of mercy and grace.

SCRIPTURE

Main Scripture:

- [John 8:1-11 \(NLT\)](#)

Secondary Scripture:

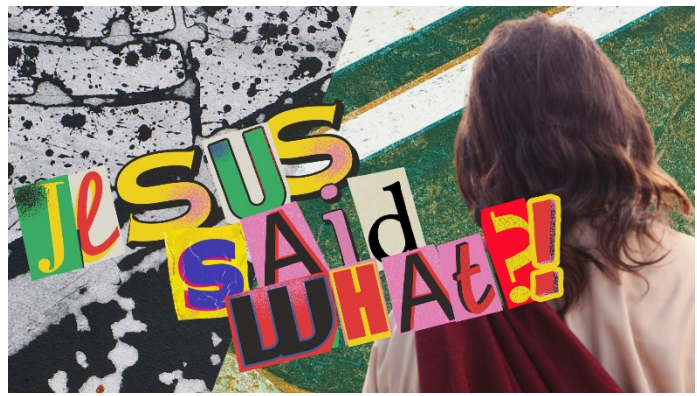
- [Ephesians 2:8-10 \(NLT\)](#)

THINK ABOUT THIS

Gospel Invitation Weekend

- 1) We don't want our time together to just be talking about good things and then trying to do them in our own power. We want our time together to be about focusing on Jesus and living our lives in response to His love. The Gospel is the heart and center of today's message. Before you lead your students, take a few moments to reflect on your salvation and praise God for what He has done in your life.
- 2) If you haven't in the last few months, review the [Go5pel Response guide](#) to remind you the heart of the Gospel and prep you for any conversations you may have with students who want to accept Jesus for the first time. When students say that to us, we want to make sure they understand what that means, celebrate with them, and share with their parents.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.



CONVERSATION GUIDE

MAIN POINT

Jesus shows mercy and grace to the guilty, and so should we.

GET THEM TALKING

Who can share a time when they were little and said something funny or awkward?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Today's Main Scripture is a long one, so we are going to look at it in 2 parts.

READ JOHN 8:1-7 and discuss the following questions:

1. What did Jesus say? Why is this surprising?
2. Why do you think it was so easy for the crowd to condemn this woman?
3. How do people condemn each other in middle school?
4. Imagine you are the woman: caught doing something wrong, dragged in front of a crowd cheering to condemn you, waiting for Jesus to speak. What thoughts and feelings would you have in that moment?

READ JOHN 8:8-11 and discuss the following questions:

5. In your own words, what happens in these verses?
6. Imagine you are the woman again – what thoughts and feeling would you have now?
7. Does Jesus offer us the same forgiveness and grace?
8. How do you know? (**Read Ephesians 2:8-10**).
9. Let's come up with a few examples of how we can "lay our stone down" and show other's God's grace?

NEXT STEP

Let's make this personal. We all have people in our lives we can show God's grace too – this week our next step is to pick ONE person and ONE way we can show them God's grace this week. Maybe there is someone who wronged you that you need to forgive? Maybe there is someone "condemned by the crowd" at your school you can show kindness to?

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask students for their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer. As you do, give students a moment to say a prayer for the person they have chosen in their mind to show grace too – that they would know God's love, mercy, and grace personally.

SCRIPTURE

MS students are concrete thinkers, so opening your Bible to read the Scripture with them is a preferred visual cue.

JOHN 8:1-11 (NLT)

“Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, ² but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. ³ As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

⁴ “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?”

⁶ They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. ⁷ They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!”

⁸ Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust.

⁹ When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. ¹⁰ Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?”

¹¹ “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”

EPHESIANS 2:8-10 (NLT)

“God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰ For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.”