

## Unpacking the Preach

Date: 19th July 2020  
Sermon Title: Do not's for the family: do not sin  
Bible Passage: John 7:53 - 8:11

### **Introduction**

- When you hear the word 'sin' what thoughts, stories from the Bible, emotions come to the surface?

### **Recapping the Preach**

Take time to read the passage again, perhaps read it a few times from different versions. Most Bibles make reference to the fact that this story does not exist in the earliest manuscripts of John's gospel, thus it is not original to John. Commentators are divided as to whether it should be included in the Bible or not.

- Do you think it should be included in our Bibles? Why?
- It is commonly pointed out that this is a much loved story from the gospel. Why do you think this is?

Stu began by telling the story from the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law perspective. The conclusion was that their actions were as a result of their own sinfulness and that they, like all humankind, are sinful in nature, act and attitude.

- What stood out to you about the Pharisees actions?
- What, do you think, was the worst aspect of the Pharisees actions?
- Why do you think they behaved the way they did?
- Do you agree that all humankind is sinful (doctrine of original sin)? What Bible passages would you turn to, to uphold this idea?
- How would you explain the doctrine of original sin to a non-christian friend?

Stu then looked at things from the woman perspective. The thoughts centred on the excuses we make to justify our sin and the consequences of our sin.

- What are some of the excuses we make to justify our sin? Have you ever found yourself doing this?
- Do you agree with the phrase 'sin comes prepackaged with a penalty and the penalty is consequences'? Why?
- What consequences of sin are evident in this whole story?
- Read Hebrews 13:4 - what does this verse tell us and what do you think 'keep the marriage bed pure' means?

Stu then looked at Jesus response to the Pharisees and focused on Jesus words to the Pharisees (If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her) and then to the woman (Neither do I condemn you. Go now and leave your life of sin).

- What lessons can we learn from Jesus words and I apply to our lives?
- It seems Jesus applies the Law to the self-righteous Pharisees and grace to the sinner. Do you agree and how should this inform our witness and mission?
- Why do you think, churches can tend to overlook the sins of hypocrisy, legalism, gossip and pride and yet be quite outspoken on issues like human sexuality, immorality etc

**Response**

- Is there anything from the preach and passage that you will be taking away to reflect on or work on?

**Prayer pointers**

- Pray for the church family that we would be people of purity.
- Pray for the church that we would be a place where people can find healing and forgiveness in Christ.

**Additional resources:**

If you need some additional resources the below websites are useful:

- <https://www.gotquestions.org>
- <https://enduringword.com>
- <https://www.biblica.com>
- <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/>