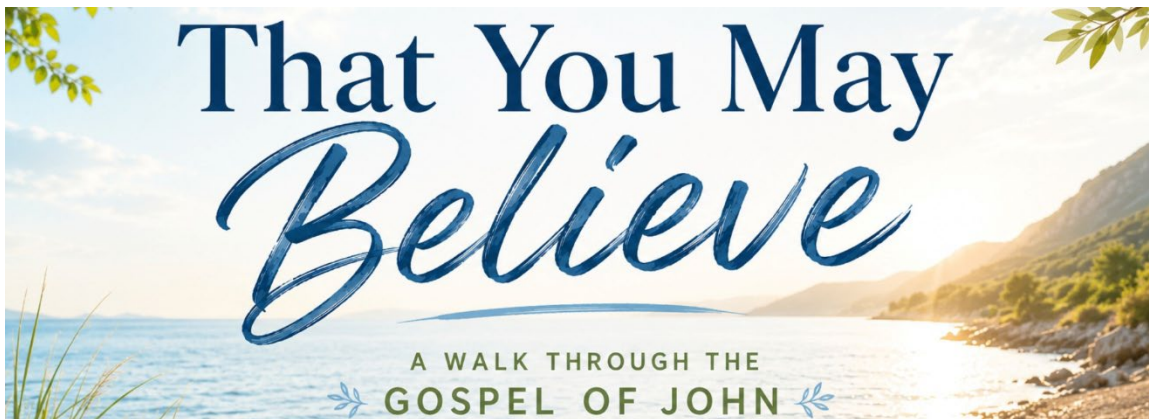




## That You May Believe: A Walk Through the Gospel of John - Wk 12

( John 8:1-11 )

Sunday, August 16, 2026

### 5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

#### Day 1: The Weight of Condemnation

**Reading:** Romans 3:23 and Romans 6:23

**Devotional:** Every person enters this world carrying the weight of sin. The law does not save us from that weight -- it simply names it. The woman brought before Jesus was not uniquely sinful. She was simply publicly exposed. Her condemnation was not unique either. Sin had already done that work long before the crowd arrived with their stones. What is remarkable is not that she stood condemned, but that Jesus stood with her in it. He did not minimize her sin. He absorbed its consequence. Before you can fully receive grace, you must first recognize that you need it.

**Reflection:** In what area of your life are you still carrying condemnation that Jesus has already addressed?

**Application:** Write down one area where you have been living under the weight of guilt. Bring it before God in prayer today and ask him to replace that weight with his grace.

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#### Day 2: The God Who Stoops

**Reading:** Philippians 2:5-8

**Devotional:** In the first century, a man stooping before a woman in public was a radical act. It was culturally unthinkable. Yet Jesus did it twice. He did not stand over the woman caught in adultery and pronounce judgment from a position of authority. He got down on her level. This is the nature of the incarnation itself. God did not shout instructions from heaven. He came down. He entered the mess. He

stooped into human flesh and walked among broken people in a broken world. Whatever you are facing today, God has not remained at a distance. He has come down to meet you exactly where you are.

**Reflection:** Have you ever experienced a moment where God felt near to you in a season of deep struggle or shame?

**Application:** Spend five minutes in silence today, simply acknowledging that God is present with you right now, in whatever condition you find yourself.

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### **Day 3: The Silence of Stones**

**Reading:** Matthew 7:1-5 and Galatians 6:1-2

**Devotional:** One by one, the accusers walked away. The oldest first. Perhaps age brings a sharper awareness of one's own failures. The crowd that had gathered with stones in hand could not answer the simple question Jesus posed. Not one of them was without sin. The stones they carried were never really about justice. They were about distraction -- a way of focusing outward so they would not have to look inward. It is far easier to catalog another person's failures than to confront your own. Jesus silenced the crowd not with argument but with truth. Truth has a way of doing that.

**Reflection:** Is there someone in your life you have been judging more harshly than you have been examining yourself?

**Application:** Identify one relationship where you have been holding a stone. Choose one specific act of grace or encouragement toward that person this week.

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### **Day 4: Neither Do I Condemn You**

**Reading:** Romans 8:1 and John 3:17

**Devotional:** Jesus looked at a woman the entire crowd had written off and said words that must have felt impossible to believe: neither do I condemn you. Sin condemns. God judges. Jesus saves. That is the order. Jesus was not pretending her sin did not exist. He acknowledged it plainly when he told her to go and sin no more. But he refused to pile condemnation on top of what sin had already done. This is the heart of the gospel. You do not come to Jesus cleaned up and presentable. You come exactly as you are, and he meets you there with forgiveness rather than a verdict.

**Reflection:** Do you truly believe that Jesus does not condemn you, or do you still approach him as though you must earn your way back into his presence?

**Application:** Memorize or write out Romans 8:1 and place it somewhere visible. Read it aloud each morning this week as a declaration over your day

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## **Day 5: Go and Sin No More -- The Life That Follows Forgiveness**

**Reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Ephesians 4:22-24

**Devotional:** The story does not end with forgiveness alone. It ends with a commission. Go and sin no more. Jesus did not forgive this woman so she could return to the same life unchanged. Forgiveness is the door. Transformation is the hallway you walk through afterward. This does not mean you will never stumble again. It means that when you do, something inside you has changed. The Holy Spirit creates in the believer a discomfort with sin that was not there before. You are drawn back toward the light not out of obligation but out of genuine love for the one who stooped down to save you. That is the life that follows grace.

**Reflection:** In what ways has your life genuinely changed since you came to faith? Where do you still sense God calling you toward deeper transformation?

**Application:** Identify one specific habit or pattern in your life that does not reflect who you are in Christ. Bring it before God this week and ask him for both the desire and the strength to walk away from it