

SERIES: Guide-rails

MESSAGE TITLE: Known for What We Are For

MESSAGE OVERVIEW: This is the tenth and final of our foundational principles. Through our services, our groups, our communications—how we treat people—we will be known for *something*. But the X factor is: *for what?* In everything we do, the relationships we prioritize and tend, we will be known for what we are for.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: John 8:1-11, Hosea 6:6, 1 John 4:8-9, Deuteronomy 30:11-16, 19-20, John 3:16-17, Romans 5:8, 20-21, and 6:23

BREAKING IT DOWN:

1. Read John 8:1-11. Did the Pharisees really care about what Jesus had to say? Why did they question him?
2. The religious leaders who targeted the woman were on a mission to destroy Jesus, and she was just fodder for the fire. What did their actions reveal? How valuable was the woman to them? To Jesus?
3. Jesus didn't shame the woman or tell her to make the proper sacrifices. He didn't teach with parables in this instance; he said almost nothing. But his lack of persecution or action didn't mean he approved of her sin either. What words did he have for her in verse 11? Why?
4. The Pharisees were against the woman, against forgiveness, against Jesus—they didn't even really care about God or justice. They were for themselves. Jesus on the other hand, is for us. He meets us right where we are. Before we could ask forgiveness, he made the choice to offer it freely. Where the law condemns, Jesus saves us with grace. (Romans 5:8, 20-21, and 6:23)
5. We are for Jesus, for Schuylkill County, for your friends and family who don't go to church, and for you. What are you for? Is it easy for others to see?

WAYS TO LIVE THE MESSAGE THIS WEEK:

1. **Drop your rocks** - Let's keep our motives in check. Bring offenses to the feet of Jesus; they're usually an indicator of something in our own hearts.
2. **The power of silence** - It's not weakness, quite the opposite. Knowing when to choose silence can be the difference maker.
3. **God is for you** - Encountering his grace and knowing we are forgiven opens the door for us to do the same. Experiencing the freedom he has for us is just the beginning.

