

Disturbing, Disconcerting, Amazing Grace

John 8:2-11

John 8:2-11 forces us to examine what we _____, think, feel, and do when the word “grace” seems disturbing, disconcerting, bewildering. Some scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery—breaking God’s law. But the incident isn’t about this woman or her lawbreaking. John recognized their _____ and used the same word for “trapping” Him as the word for “catching” the woman. They didn’t care about trapping _____ for lawbreaking. They cared about trapping _____.

They proposed a question, a _____-____. Whichever answer He gave, He could be taken either to the Roman or the Jewish _____. Furthermore, the Pharisee hoped if He said, “stone her,” He would _____ with the crowds who followed Him because He made room for even tax-collectors and sinners in His life. It infuriated the Pharisees that all the people were coming to Him.

Before answering, He knelt and wrote in the dust. It was the _____, not the _____ that matters. Jesus may have been acting out Jer. 17:13, using this verse as a _____ against them. Or maybe He dramatized God’s descending to Sinai and writing the Law with His _____. His action said, “I am the _____.”

Jesus’ answer was brilliant. “If the law says stone her, go ahead with one _____. The one that _____ the execution needs to be without sin.” No one _____ the _____, so they left.

They didn’t care about the law or the woman. Jesus did. Jesus called her “woman” which is equal to our word, “____’ ____.” He restored her _____. With a statement, He restored her _____ in the community and with God: “No one condemns you, nor do I.” With a challenge He gave hope for new _____ for her future: “Go and sin no more.” You don’t have to do this anymore.

Here is _____: Always grant others _____. Restore standing in the _____ and before _____. And inspire _____ that a better way and a better life is on the horizon.