**“The God of Second Chances” Discussion Questions**

**Ice Breaker**: Have you ever tried to take control of a situation that was not yours to control? What was the result?

**Read Text**: John 8:1-11

**Discussion Questions**:

* After reading the whole story, which characters show the most impure motives and why?
* What does not seem right about the religious leaders asking Jesus’ opinion of the Law?
* What was wrong with the religious leaders’ accusation against this woman?
* What is the Church community supposed to look like if we live by Jesus’ statement in verse 7?
* What is the significance of the religious leaders walking away beginning with the older ones first? Is there anything about this part of the story that we can apply to the church today?
* If Jesus says that He does not condemn those who come to Him for forgiveness, then what does that look like for us as His followers?

**Application**:

* There is a popular statement that is often shared within the church that says, “At the foot of the cross, the ground is flat”. This statement helps us see that no matter how different our sins may be from one another, in the eyes of God, we all need the love, grace, and sacrifice of Jesus. This becomes more difficult to remember when we begin to compare sins or to point out the more obvious sins of others to hide or justify our own. What are some ways that we can remember Christ’s grace as we are reminded or the sins of others?
* Our responsibility as Jesus’ Church is not to condemn or convict people of their sins, that is the Holy Spirit’s job, but rather it is to lead people to the God of second chances who looks at us and says, “I do not condemn you, go and sin no more”. How can we embody this statement that Jesus made in our role as His followers? It is when we shame people because of their sins that we both misrepresent the character and will of God and that we try to take God’s place as the Just Judge of the world. We must remember that our responsibility as His followers is not to shame people for their past, but to encourage one another to continually pursue the life that God has called us to live.
* It is important to remember that both parties in front of Jesus were guilty of sin. This story gives us opportunity to see how Jesus responds to sin which is with forgiveness and a call to leave the life of sin. What are some ways each day that we can lay down our stones of condemnation or self-condemnation and pick up His grace and love for ourselves and others?