Study Notes: Freedom from Condemnation

Speaker: Drew Burtis | The Authentic Follower, Session 2 of 5 | June 24, 2025 | The Island

Scripture: John 8, Galatians 5:1, Romans 6:1-2, Romans 8:1

The Cookie Jar

Burtis's own childhood story - sneaking a cookie before dinner and getting ratted out by his siblings, used to set up a much bigger story.

- The rule from my parents was we only break into that cookie jar after ____.

Caught in the Act

The experts in the law and the Pharisees stage the whole scene - their real target isn't the woman, it's Jesus.

- The Pharisees said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of ____."

Notes:

Whoever Is Guiltless

Jesus bends down, writes in the dirt, then answers the accusers with a single line.

> *"Whoever among you is guiltless may be the first to throw a ____ at her."*

One by One, They Walk Away

The accusers drift away one at a time, from the group's most senior members down, until only Jesus and the woman are left.

- They began to drift away one at a time, starting with the ____ ones, until Jesus was left alone with the woman.

I Do Not Condemn You Either

Jesus asks her to look up, then pairs forgiveness with a call to change direction.

> *"I do not condemn you either. Go and from now on, do not ____ anymore."*

Notes:

Satan's Three-Part Attack

Burtis maps Satan's strategy onto exactly what the Pharisees just tried to do to this woman.

- Your enemy Satan is the great tempter, the great accuser, and the great ____.

The Promise That Closes It Out

The promise Burtis closes on, from Romans 8:1.

"There is therefore now no ____for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Notes:

The Takeaway

- Jesus does not condemn you for your past - he forgives it - but he calls you to recognize and forsake your sin and walk in a new direction, because there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Reflect

1. Burtis described Satan as working in three roles: tempter, accuser, and condemner - the same pattern the Pharisees used on the woman in John 8. Which of those three do you feel the enemy using on you most right now?

2. Jesus told the woman, "I do not condemn you either. Go and from now on, do not sin anymore" - forgiveness paired with a call to turn around. Where have you accepted the forgiveness but not yet made that turn?

3. Burtis quoted D.A. Carson: "The proper response to mercy received on account of past sins is purity in the future." What would it look like this week to actually live like Romans 8:1 is true of you?