

Discussion Questions

“How to Judge a Harlot”

(Is there anyone you especially struggle with feeling judgmental and unforgiving towards? Explain. What do you think God’s response to them would be?)

Read John 8:1-18

- How do you think God feels about the woman caught in adultery?
- What does this passage reveal to you about God and judgment?
- Jesus could’ve exposed the adulteress in this chapter or any of the harlots He encountered before they made mistakes, and yet He didn’t. Why do you think God didn’t expose them *before* they made mistakes?
- Why do you think God allows us to make mistakes? Is there any good that can come out of mistakes?

Jesus said, “You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me.” This sounds like Jesus judges no one and yet, in some way, He does . . .

- Thinking about your own life, and also this passage, how do you think Jesus judges “not alone” but “with the Father” “by judging no one”?

Read Revelation 18-19:9.

According to Rev. 17: 16-17, it is clear that God is the one responsible for the judgment of the prostitute.

- What stands out to you about God’s judgment of her—Babylon?
- Pay especially close attention to Revelation 19:1-9, in the end, what happens to her?
- Everyone seems to be rejoicing at the judgment of the great prostitute, why do you think everyone’s rejoicing at something so seemingly horrific?
- We often think of judgment as something negative, do you think those rejoicing might have a different understanding of judgment than we often do?
- How do you think they might see judgment? What do you think might enable them to see it that way?
- Who do you think is the Bride that the Lamb is marrying? Do you think it’s possible that the judgment of God has transformed the prostitute into the Bride? Why or why not?
- How do you think the Bride “made herself ready?” Look at Rev. 19:8 who do you think granted her this ability?
 - On a personal level, are there any ways in which you can relate to playing the harlot?
 - Do you think there’s anything in you that might need to be judged by God?
 - How do you typically respond to God’s process of judging and refining you?

“We must surrender the Life that has already died, so we can receive the Life that is eternal. We must surrender the Life we took so we can know the Life that is given. God is the Good, and His Word is Life. God *gives* His life, *that’s* His vengeance—infinite vengeance because He never stops. He is burning hot, absolute, unstoppable and relentless Love.”—P.H.

Let those words sink into your heart . . . Now, as you do . . .

- Is there anything that comes up in your mind and makes you think that you need to pay for that love?
- Are there any areas of your being that you think might be unlovable by God?
- Do you hear accusations of your unworthiness? If so, where do those accusations come from? Do they come from your loving heavenly Father? (They surely do not.)
- Now, picture Jesus’ response to those accusations:
 - Jesus bends down and writes something with His finger. What do you think He’s writing?
 - Then He says to your accusers, “Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.” Your accusers leave one by one at His words.
 - Then Jesus says to you, “Where are your accusers? I too do not condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”

Surrender the life that has already died, so you can receive the Life that is eternal!