



Imagine if that terrible moment—that mistake you relive over and over again in your mind—was erased from your record. Imagine if, like in some fantastic dream, you were loved without limit and forgiven forever. Imagine if you were accepted. Loved by the God who made you. Forgiven by the God who bought you. Declared innocent by the God who died for you. Imagine if there were no stones to throw.

**These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.**

**Group Ice-Breaker:**

When have you been forgiven for something that led to avoiding a penalty you deserved? (Maybe a speeding ticket that was forgiven? Or someone you wronged who chose to overlook the wrong?)

**NOT GUILTY.** Read **John 7:53-8:11**. Pick different members of the group to choose a character in the story and ask them to tell the story from their perspective.

Jesus.

The woman.

The religious leader questioning Jesus.

The oldest person with a rock in their hand.

The youngest person with a rock in their hand.

How do the words “I do not condemn you” make you feel? Share how these words resonate with you in your own story.

**LOVE FOR THE WORLD.** Read **John 3:16**. What is “unconditional” love? It seems like most people in our lives (coaches, teachers, clients, bosses, neighbors) like or love us for what we have, what we look like, or how well we perform. How does unconditional love differ from all of that? **Follow up:** Read **Romans 5:6-11**. What does it mean for God to love ungodly sinners who are enemies of the cross? Discuss how God’s love for you is limitless.

**NO CONDEMNATION.** Read **John 3:17**. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it. Discuss the powerful paradigm shift involved in thinking “God’s goal is not to critique, scold, destroy, and condemn; his desire is to rescue.” Follow up. Read **Romans 8:1**. Read this verse slowly, over and over again, in several translations. Do you believe that? Share why you might have trouble believing this. Read **Romans 8:31-39** in **The Living Bible**.

**FORGIVEN FOREVER.** Read **1 John 1:5-9**. Walking in the light refers to our everyday life “as Christians”—not to those “innocent” moments between sins. Share confidence in believing we stand in the constantly flowing river of Jesus’ cleansing blood, receiving forgiveness from God.

**CALLING ALL NEUROTICS.** Read **1 John 2:1-2 & 3:20**. If we do sin, we have the best lawyer! Jesus Christ, who argues our case based on His finished work on the cross. And when our negative self-talk gets the best of us, God is greater than our self-condemning. Share how this brings confidence. Read **1 John 5:13**. Have each person in the circle read this verse out loud.