

“Writings in the Sand”

Based on John 8:2-11(NIV)

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Neil Peck, preaching

John 8:2-11 (NIV)

2 At dawn Jesus appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them.

3 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group

4 and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery.

5 In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"

6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.

7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.

10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

† **The woman was just a tool that the Pharisees were trying to use to discredit Jesus.**

† **Jesus must have written something pretty powerful in the sand.**

† Jesus could have written, "who is this woman?"

† Jesus could have written, "Don't you have anything better to do?"

† **Along with the bad news, "I have sinned," comes the good news, "I can be forgiven."**

† **Jesus may have written a message just for the adulterous woman.**

† **Jesus can free me from the stain and pain of my past and liberate me to a life worth living.**

† **God knows the one who sins and God knows the one holding the rock.**

Applying Today's Message to My Life:

† Whose actions have I disapproved of in the past week?
This past month?

† When have I done something others disapproved of?

† Am I hasty in condemning others and neglect my own shortcomings?

† What message would Jesus write in the sand for me and would I read, and agree with, it?

† How can I realize my sinful nature and look for ways to help others rather than hurt them?