

Title: Stone Me - John 8:1-11

Read:

¹⁻² Jesus went across to Mount Olives, but he was soon back in the Temple again. Swarms of people came to him. He sat down and taught them. ³⁻⁶ The religion scholars and Pharisees led in a woman who had been caught in an act of adultery. They stood her in plain sight of everyone and said, "Teacher, this woman was caught red-handed in the act of adultery. Moses, in the Law, gives orders to stone such persons. What do you say?" They were trying to trap him into saying something incriminating so they could bring charges against him. ⁶⁻⁸ Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger in the dirt. They kept at him, badgering him. He straightened up and said, "The sinless one among you, go first: Throw the stone." Bending down again, he wrote some more in the dirt. ⁹⁻¹⁰ Hearing that, they walked away, one after another, beginning with the oldest. The woman was left alone. Jesus stood up and spoke to her. "Woman, where are they? Does no one condemn you?" ¹¹ "No one, Master." "Neither do I," said Jesus. "Go on your way. From now on, don't sin."

Think:

This is a pretty well known story in the Bible and the message is clear. Don't think you are better than any of your mates at school or college. You and I are in no position to judge anyone. It's the same point Jesus makes when we are told to check out, our own eyes, for a massive lump of wood, before we point out, the small splinter in someone else's. We do appreciate that Jesus forgives us too. When we stuff up, Jesus equally tells other people to bog off and check out their own actions before they judge us. We can dance around and remind people that they are no better and no worse than we are, and we would be right. But, check out Jesus last words to the adulterous women. "Go on your way. From now on, don't sin." Yep, we are not let off the hook either. Jesus would equally say to us, your selfish acts are forgiven but go away and try not to be selfish anymore.

Pray:

Father, we know that we too have to make a conscious effort not to be selfish and sin. Lord, thank you for forgiving me, please help me to learn from my mistakes. Amen.

Action:

As you were listening to this dev, you were thinking of something you have done wrong in the past. Well from now on forget it, God has. But carry with you the lesson you've learnt. Bye for now.