

CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS

GENTLENESS:

“JESUS IS GENTLE”

Read John 8:1-11 and Galatians 6:1.

Questions for discussion

1. What was the punishment for someone who was caught in adultery? (*You might want to explain the woman’s adultery as “giving her heart to another man, even though she already had a husband.”*)
2. Why did the Pharisees bring the woman to Jesus?
3. What did Jesus say and do?
4. Was this a gentle or harsh way to point out to her that she had sinned?
5. Would she have learned to love Jesus if He had thrown stones at her?
6. What did Jesus tell the woman to do?
7. What are we to do when we “catch” other people sinning?

Key concepts

The Old Testament law said that a man or woman who gave their love and attention to someone who was not their wife or husband should be stoned to death. The Pharisees brought the woman to Jesus who had sinned in this way. They wanted to try and trap Jesus so they would have a reason to accuse Him of wrongdoing. Instead of telling them to stone her, Jesus began writing on the ground. Then Jesus said, “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her” (**John 8:7**).

People began to leave, one by one. Finally, only Jesus and the woman were left. Jesus didn’t throw any stones at her, but He did tell her to leave her life of sin. We can follow Jesus’ example by gently correcting those who do wrong and offering them forgiveness.