**Faith Foundations 2024-2025**

**The Gospel of John (Part 1)**

**Session 18—John 7:40-8:11**

**In this week’s lesson, we continue to study John’s account of Jesus’ words and activities as He was in Jerusalem for the Feast of Booths. This section of the text focuses more on the people’s reactions to Him and the debates they had amongst themselves as to the truth or falsehood of His words. This week we will also hear one of the most beloved (and also most factually disputed) accounts of Jesus’ interactions with sinners whom He encountered during His ministry.**

**1.) Read John 7:40-44. What were some of the competing ideas that the people had about who Jesus was? Read Deuteronomy 18:15-19 as a reminder of who “the Prophet” was supposed to be.**

**2.) Why did some people express doubts about Jesus’ identity as the Christ? Why were they correct, but also mistaken at the same time?**

**3.) How were the people divided in their assessment of Jesus? What did some of them want to do?**

**4.) Read John 7:45-52. What did the Pharisees ask the officers who had been sent to arrest Jesus? What was the officers’ response?**

**5.) How did the Pharisees try to cast doubt on Jesus’ trustworthiness? Of what did they accuse the crowds who had believed in Him?**

**6.) How did Nicodemus try to speak up for Jesus? What was the rest of the Pharisees’ response to him?**

**7.) Were the Pharisees actually correct when they said that “no prophet arises from Galilee?” Why or why not?**

**8.) Read John 7:53-8:11. What was Jesus doing in the temple when the incident recorded in this text occurred?**

**9.) Whom did the scribes and Pharisees bring before Jesus? Of what did they accuse her?**

**10.) What did the Pharisees ask Jesus about the woman? Why were they doing this?**

**11.) What did Jesus start to do after they brought the woman to Him? What do you suppose He was writing?**

**12.) What did Jesus say to the Pharisees about the woman? What did they do then?**

**13.) What did Jesus then ask the woman? How did she respond?**

**14.) How did Jesus then treat the woman? What did He tell her to do?**

**Regardless of whether or not this section of text actually belongs in John’s Gospel, it does teach some important truths about Jesus and His treatment of sinners. He is patient with people like the adulterous woman, giving them chances to repent and amend their sinful lives. However, He also urges them to “go and sin no more;” that is, not to interpret His patience as permissiveness, but rather to know that they will eventually be judged and held to account, and to adjust their lives accordingly. They should listen to Jesus, believe in Him, and follow His teachings. In so doing, they will find a patient and loving Savior who does not condemn them, but rather forgives them for their failings. This was true of the adulterous woman in the text, and it is true of all of us Christians as well.**