



ELEMENTARY

Week of October 11

Bible Story: Jesus Forgives the Sinner (John 8 1-11)

The Jesus Storybook Bible (JSB): Washed with Tears 280-285 (separate from this story)

BIG Idea: Jesus doesn't look down on us for being sinners, so we shouldn't look down on others who sin.

Bible Story Video: https://youtu.be/II_v3KTgDw

THE BIG BIBLE STORY

You probably remember that Jesus traveled to lots of different towns telling people about the good news of God's forgiveness. One day, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives to talk to the people in the Jewish temple. There was a huge crowd of people around him who were hanging on every word Jesus was saying. All of a sudden, there was a commotion in the room. Someone was interrupting Jesus!

Some Pharisees and other teachers of the law stormed into the room. The Pharisees didn't like Jesus and they were always trying to catch him doing something wrong. And they had a sneaky plan to catch Jesus saying the wrong thing.

The Pharisees brought in a woman who had been caught sinning and made her stand in front of the whole crowd. The Pharisees explained to everyone how the woman had fallen in love with a man who wasn't her husband. They told the crowd that she hadn't been faithful in her marriage. Can you imagine how embarrassed and ashamed she felt? Have you ever been caught in a sin before? How did it feel? (*Take your child's response.*) That's probably how this woman felt times 100!

After explaining how the woman had sinned, one of the Pharisees asked Jesus a question. Listen to what he said, (*open Bible to John 8:5 and read aloud in a crafty/sneaky voice*) "In the Law, Moses commanded us to kill such women by throwing stones at them. Even as the Pharisee was asking his question, some of the people in the crowd were probably already picking up stones to throw. Pretend like you're all part of the crowd. Cock your arms like you're ready to throw a stone. (*Illustrate for your child.*)

As the crowd was preparing to throw their stones at the woman, Jesus did something no one expected. He bent down and started writing in the sand! The Bible doesn't say what Jesus wrote in the dirt, but whatever it was, it made the crowd rethink their actions. They began to lower their arms. Finally, Jesus stood up and said, "Let the person who has never sinned throw the first stone at her." Do you think there was anyone in the crowd who had never sinned? (*allow your child to respond.*) No way! One by one, every person in the crowd began to put their stone down on the ground, and walk away.

Pretty soon, everyone was gone except for Jesus and the woman. I'll bet the woman was ready to do a happy dance. Listen to what Jesus said to the woman, (*read aloud from John 8:10-11*) "Jesus stood up and asked her, 'Woman, where are they? Hasn't anyone found you guilty?' 'No one, sir,' she said. 'Then I don't find you guilty either,' Jesus said. 'Go now and leave your life of sin.'"

BIG BIBLE STORY QUESTIONS?

- What does this story teach us about Jesus?
- Why do you think Jesus said that only someone who had never sinned should throw the first stone?
- JSB question: Why did Jesus forgive this woman?

BIG BIBLE STORY ACTIVITIES

Journal: Write a letter, song, or poem to Jesus praising him for His incredible forgiveness.

Art: Draw a picture that shows how thankful you are that Jesus still loves you when you sin.