

Craig Groeschel Things Jesus Never Said: Go Do What Makes You Happy

At dawn he [Jesus] appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. ... - John 8:2-6 (NIV)

... But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. - John 8:6 (NIV)

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." - John 8:7 (NIV)

Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. 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. Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin." - John 8:8-11 (NIV)

- Sin promises satisfaction at the cost of disobedience to God.
- Without a belief in absolute truth, truth is defined by whatever makes me happy.
- When the bottom line is my happiness, happiness becomes the standard by which I judge my actions.

"If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!" - Matthew 7:11 (NIV)

- Holiness isn't mutually exclusive of happiness.
- Holiness is the pathway to true happiness and joy!

You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever. - Psalm 16:11 (NASB)

... And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. - 1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)

- Every temptation is an invitation to depend on Christ!

Things to Think About:

Are there any areas of your life where you've been looking for happiness in the wrong place?

Think about the temptations you face. How can you use those temptations as an invitation to depend on God more?

How can you take what you've learned about temptation and help others who might be struggling with it?

Encourage one another to depend on Christ by holding one another accountable. Reach out this week by text, email, phone, or in person.