

The logo for 'CLOSE ENCOUNTERS' features the text in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The text is centered on a dark, horizontal band that has a glowing, multi-colored (red, purple, blue) light effect behind it, set against a black background with vertical light streaks.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

¹ but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. ³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought

a woman who had been caught in adultery and placing her in the midst ⁴ they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So, what do you say?" ⁶ This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷ And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰ Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

Series Lessons

John includes the STORIES of five people who ENCOUNTERED Jesus and their response.

- The RELIGIOUS Jn. 3

- The BROKEN Jn. 4

- The GUILTY Jn. 8

John includes these encounters to show that SALVATION is for EVERYONE.

The Setting

This was a very PUBLIC place – the TEMPLE.

² And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down and taught them.

They brought a MARRIED woman caught in ADULTERY.

³ And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, ⁴ They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. ⁵ Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou?

They were trying to TRAP Jesus by making him to have to CHOOSE between Moses and ROME.

⁶ This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him.

The Sin

ADULTERY- was the sexual sin between a man and another MAN'S WIFE.

It required that there was INDISPUTABLE proof.

It required that TWO witnesses MATCHED exactly in their TESTIMONY.

It required that BOTH offenders would be ACCUSED.

The PUNISHMENT was DEATH for both.

⁵ Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? ⁶ This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

The Silence

This is ONE of only TWO times that Jesus uses SILENCE to confront his ENEMIES.

But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

While the Pharisees were feeling SELF-RIGHTEOUS, the woman was feeling SHAME.

SHAME is a painful feeling of HUMILIATION caused by guilt, embarrassment or feelings of unworthiness.

Shame is a VERY powerful MOTIVATOR.

25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." Genesis 3:10

Jesus stooped down to POSITION himself closer to the WOMAN.
But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

Our SHAME concerns JESUS.

7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

*"At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness, he shall not be put to death. The hands of the witnesses shall be first upon him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people." **Deuteronomy 17:6-7***

We often have the desire to PUNISH the sins of others while IGNORING our own.

5 Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, 6 and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he

did this thing, and because he had no pity.”⁷ Nathan said to David,
“You are the man! 2Samuel 12

The Sentence

¹⁰ When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?

¹¹ She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

The danger is to think ALL SIN is the same and none of them MATTER.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

Do you think that she felt shame even though she might not have gotten caught?

“Go and don’t get caught no more!”