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**NO MATTER  
WHERE YOU'VE BEEN OR  
WHAT YOU'VE DONE**

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## INTRODUCTION

We are in our second week of the *Welcome Home* series where we are focusing on our Prairie Lakes Church mission statement: "No matter who you are, where you've been, what you've done or what's been done to you, God loves you, and you can look for God here." Last week, Pastor John assured us from Luke 5 who you are doesn't matter to Jesus because He welcomes all people both into His Kingdom and His mission. This week, Pastor Jesse focuses on no matter where you've been or what you've done, Jesus comes to unconditionally accept and forgive you.

## DISCUSSION

1. **Read Luke 5:1-26.** According to verses 20-24, what did Jesus see besides the man's physical impediment? What authority does Jesus have (v. 24)? Have you ever pondered that some of the things that trouble you are tied to your sinful behavior? If so, do you recognize Jesus has the authority to forgive you of your past and present sin? Pray as a group for God to reveal areas of your life you need to repent and turn over to God for His forgiveness. Share whatever you are comfortable with and commit to praying for each other.
2. **Read John 8:1-11.** How did Jesus react to the women's sin? How would you have reacted had you been in the crowd? **Read John 8:7, Isaiah 53:6, 1 John 1:8 and 10, and Romans 3:23.** How does Jesus react to our sin? If He were standing before you now, what would He say? Write that down, and look at it the next time accusers come.
3. **Read Romans 3:24, Romans 5:7-11, 1 John 1:9, Ephesians 2:8-9 and John 3:16.** How did you react when you first realized Christ willingly came to pay the penalty for your sin? Who would you consider "enemies" of God? How would you approach those far from God with the Gospel?
4. Discuss the magnitude of Christ's great love for us despite the failures and struggles we all face. How do Paul's words from **Philippians 1:6** encourage you? As a group, spend a few moments expressing thanksgiving and worship for Christ's continuing grace and unconditional love.

## DO SOMETHING

1. Take **1 John 1:9**, and place it somewhere it can be a daily reminder to be purified through repentance. At your next group meeting, share how this practice affected your faith life.
2. If you have crossed the Faith Line, take some private time this week and recall how God has purified your life since that time. Express your thanksgiving to Him.
3. Consider how you personally react to others who are presently living in sin. Can you react in a better manner? Consider forgiving them, praying for them, encouraging them and lovingly holding them accountable.

## RESOURCES

1. *Freedom: How Grace Transforms Your Life Now* by Derek Wilder
2. *Changes That Heal* by Dr. Henry Cloud