

Summary: In John 8, a woman is caught in the act of adultery. If homosexual sex is sexual immorality, just like adultery, what does this scripture teach about our interactions with practicing homosexuals? For example, imagine the woman in the story below is lesbian.

John 8:1-11 (NLT)

Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, ² but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. ³ As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

⁴ “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?”

⁶ They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. ⁷ They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” ⁸ Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust.

⁹ When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. ¹⁰ Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?”

¹¹ “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”

Questions for Discussion

1. Do you think it’s fair to reimagine this passage with a lesbian? Do you think the woman being lesbian would have changed Jesus’ response to the situation?
2. What do you think Jesus means when He says, “let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!”?
3. Jesus said that He does not condemn the woman. What does that mean for Christians addressing practicing homosexuals?
4. Jesus tells the woman to “Go and sin no more.” Is it right for Christians say this scripture to practicing homosexuals who are exploring Christianity?

Disaffiliation Discernment Meetings
Christian Love for People in Sexual Immorality

F2

Christians are people of love. How do Christians best show God's love to our LGBTQ+ neighbors, friends, and family members?

In Matthew 7:12 Jesus gives us the Golden Rule, "Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets." Jesus also taught, "Love your neighbor as yourself," in Matthew 22:39.

1. How would you like to be treated if you identified as LGBTQ+?

2. Practicing homosexuals often feel Christians are more concerned about homosexuality than other sexual sins. Do you think this is true, and if so, is that a problem?

3. It has been said, "Love the sinner, but hate the sin." Is that really possible? Is it Biblical?

4. Does loving a person mean that you must affirm their values, customs, and choices? If not, how do you keep love-centered social interactions with people whom you disagree?

5. If the Bible is right and unrepenting homosexuals will not go to heaven (1 Corinthians 6:9-10), what is the loving thing that Christians should encourage practicing homosexuals to do? To put it another way, if the Bible is true and practicing homosexuality is a sin, would it be truly loving to affirm, ignore, or turn a blind eye to this sin?