

WEEK 3: BLESS

WARM UP: Name every song lyric, pop culture reference, bible verse or Christian saying you can think of about "bless"/"blessed"/"blessing".

- 1. Read John 7:53-8:11. Before we get into the heart of this passage, take a moment to be curious about it. What do you find interesting about it? What questions do you have about it? What does it cause you to think about or feel?
- 2. Mike Frost talked about the difference between an I-It relationship and an I-Thou relationship, and pointed to this story as exemplifying both. The teachers/Pharisees saw the woman as an "it" (i.e. an object of no value), whereas Jesus saw the woman as a "thou" (i.e. someone worthy of honour).
 - Be honest, do you view or treat some people as "its"? (whether individuals or groups, e.g. muslims, LGBT)
 - Who in your life could you bless by treating as a "thou",
 i.e. listen to, attend to, seek to understand, give honour.

This week's challenge (from the bookmark): Whom can I bless – with kindness, a gift, a word of affirmation – this week? (think of at least one Christian and one non-Christian)

PRAY: That God would help you see the inherent worth and dignity in others, and to bless them in meaningful ways.