

Rough Crowd
“A Rough Crowd Isn’t Qualified to Pick Up Stones”- Ben Foote
August 26-27, 2017

Community:

1. Were you able to see the solar eclipse? Have you seen any other natural phenomenons?
2. This is the final week of the *Rough Crowd* series. Which video testimonial was the most memorable for you?

Core:

1. Ben said, “*A rough crowd isn’t qualified to pick up stones.*” Have you ever experienced a church or community with religious know-it-alls? How did they make you feel?
2. Have you ever wanted to judge or throw stones at people? What makes us want to do that?
3. **Read John 8:3-11.** How do you think the woman felt as the Pharisees brought her to Jesus? How did Jesus’ response show both *truth* and *grace*? If you were in the woman’s shoes, how would you have responded to Jesus’ comments?
4. Have you ever felt like that adulterous woman in John 8? Where do you feel the most guilt and shame in life? After reading John 8:3-11, what do you think Jesus’ intentions are for those areas of your life?
5. **Read Acts 9:1-15.** Can you blame Ananias for feeling the way he did when Jesus told him to go find Saul? How do you think you would’ve responded? What can this story teach us about what Jesus can do in the lives of everyone—even those who seem hopeless?
6. **Read 1 Timothy 1:15-16.** If God can take someone like Paul (who was killing Christians and was “*the worst of sinners*”) and use him to be an example for us today, how much do you think God can use you to reach the lost and broken?
7. **Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.** Do you struggle believing that Jesus really does have the power to give you strength in your weakest moments? What areas do think Jesus is asking you to turn over to Him and be your strength?

Challenge:

Ben said, “*We might be a rough crowd. But because of Jesus, we’re forgiven and we’re being healed.*”

Take some time this week to write down all of the areas where you feel unqualified, guilty, and shameful. Then, write down all the reasons you might have for judging or condemning somebody else or yourself.

After writing down these two things read **Romans 8:5** and lay everything you have next to the truth of this passage and reflect on how it speaks to you in those areas.

We are a rough crowd, but Jesus is not giving up on us or others!