

Drop Your Rocks

(Pick Up Your Mirror, Rescue Them,
Then Restore Them)

John 8:1–11

1

Ralph's Story

- Ralph was a college senior, married but without children.
- He partied and used marijuana and cocaine.
- His wife, a Christian, rejected drugs and began ministering to him.
- A friend asked Ralph to sell marijuana and cocaine.
- He brought the drugs to a party intending to sell them.
- His wife left early, trusting a friend to bring him home.
- The next morning, Ralph awoke with no drugs or money.
- Believing he was robbed, he grabbed his pistol and left home.

2

Big Idea And Title

- Ralph was ready to throw a rock in the form of revenge.
- Others may not grab pistols—but they grab emotional or verbal rocks.
- We throw rocks of judgment when we feel wronged or hurt.
- Some grab the rock of resentment—nursing past wounds.
- Others throw the rock of retaliation—seeking to get even.
- We throw rocks of criticism—tearing others down to feel superior.
- We pick up entitlement—believing others deserve punishment.
- Judgment rocks come in many forms—but all aim to wound.

3

Big Idea And Title (Continued)

- John 8:1-11 (NIV)

1 but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
 2 At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them.
 3 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery.
 4 They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. 5 In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"
 6 They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.
 7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."
 8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.
 9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.
 10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"
 11 "No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

4

Big Idea And Title (Continued)

- Big Idea: Before you throw a rock, check your own heart.
- Rocks may be physical, emotional, or spiritual—but they all hurt.
- Consider Consequences and Examine Yourself
- Title: Drop Your Rocks

5

Connections

- Leviticus 24 – A man stoned for cursing God.
- Deuteronomy 13 – Stoning for enticing others into idolatry.
- Numbers 15 – A man stoned for breaking the Sabbath.
- Deuteronomy 21 – A rebellious son could be stoned.
- Deuteronomy 18 – False prophets condemned by stoning.
- Acts 7 – Stephen stoned for preaching Christ.
- Acts 14 – Paul stoned for proclaiming the Gospel.
- John 8 & 10 – Jesus nearly stoned for declaring His divinity.

6

Connections (Continued)

- Jesus teaches in the temple courts early in the morning.
- Pharisees bring a woman caught in adultery before Him.
- They cite the Law of Moses demanding stoning.
- It's a trap: accuse Jesus regardless of His response.
- Jesus writes in the dirt, then invites self-reflection.
- He says: 'Let him without sin cast the first stone.'
- One by one, the accusers walk away in silence.
- Jesus offers mercy: 'Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.'

7

Connections (Continued)

- In today's world, it's easy to pick up metaphorical stones.
- We throw stones of criticism, gossip, and condemnation.
- Social media amplifies public shame and judgment.
- We often rush to judge instead of seeking to understand.
- Jesus calls us to drop the stone and pick up the mirror.
- True righteousness examines self before accusing others.
- Grace stands in the gap where judgment once ruled.
- Let's follow Jesus: extend mercy, not condemnation.

8

Pick Up Your Mirror

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)

"Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?"

- Paul urges: 'Examine yourselves' (2 Corinthians 13:5).
- Self-examination precedes spiritual revival.
- We often ignore our sin while judging others.
- Examination isn't casual—it's like a spiritual MRI.
- Test (dokimazō) means refining like metal in fire.
- Are we truly walking in faith—or just in routine?
- Personal holiness must outweigh public appearance.
- Conviction must begin in the heart before the altar.

9

Pick Up Your Mirror – (continued)

- We carry rocks of resentment, righteousness, and retreat.
- 'I'm better than them' – the Rock of Righteousness.
- 'They hurt me' – the Rock of Resentment.
- 'I've failed' – the Rock of Retreat.
- Jesus calls us to drop the rock and pick up the mirror.
- He challenged the Pharisees to self-reflect.
- Rocks harm—but mirrors reveal what grace must heal.
- The mirror shows our need for repentance and grace.

10

Pick Up Your Mirror (Continued)

- David was convicted when Nathan said: 'You are the man.'
- The mirror of truth exposes hidden pride and sin.
- Social media stones often come without self-check.
- Before gossiping—ask: Is my walk upright?
- Before condemning—check your heart posture.
- At home: Am I reflecting Christ in conflict?
- The mirror calls for truth, humility, and surrender.
- Let grace shape the image we reflect to the world.

11

Pick Up Your Mirror (Continued)

- Pick up the mirror, not the stone.
- Allow the Spirit to search your heart daily.
- Let conviction lead you to confession, not condemnation.
- Seek transformation through spiritual self-inspection.
- Use the mirror to foster empathy over accusation.
- Let your life reflect Christ—not your offense.
- Aim to grow, not to throw.
- Become a spiritual reflector, not a spiritual inspector.

12

Rescue Them

James 5:19–20 (NIV)

"My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins."

- James closes with a mission of mercy, not just theology.
- The call is not to cast judgment—but to extend grace.
- When someone strays, we are to bring them back in love.
- It's not about whispering or rejecting—it's about rescuing.
- Believers are spiritual first responders, not stone-throwers.
- We must not write people off—we must run after them.
- True rescue reflects the heart of Christ—not condemnation.
- Rescue is a courageous, grace-filled pursuit of restoration.

13

Rescue Them (Continued)

- God doesn't call us to spiritual indifference—but to action.
- Grace means seeking out those who are wounded and wandering.
- The goal is not to expose—but to restore in truth and love.
- This isn't being soft on sin—it's strong in Christlike compassion.
- We are firefighters for the soul—running toward the flames.
- Jesus didn't throw the rock—He covered and redirected in grace.
- Spiritual rescue is a divine assignment for every believer.
- Mercy doesn't excuse sin—it opens a path to healing.

14

Rescue Them (Continued)

- Ezekiel 34 – God rebukes shepherds for not rescuing the strays.
- God says: 'I myself will search for my sheep and look after them.'
- John 8 – Jesus does not condemn the adulterous woman.
- He alone could throw the stone—but He chose mercy.
- Jesus shows restoration, not revenge, is God's heart.
- He tells her, 'Go and sin no more'—grace with truth.
- Jesus models rescue with compassion and clarity.
- James echoes Jesus: Truth without grace is not redemption.

15

Rescue Them (Continued)

- Are we known for rescuing others—or writing them off?
- Love doesn't cancel—it chases the broken with grace.
- Modern rescue means checking in, not checking out.
- Don't just pray about the fallen—pursue them in love.
- Rescue begins in the heart—and moves with hands and feet.
- Before you judge—remember Jesus dropped His rock for you.
- What He did for you, go and do for someone else.
- Turn stones into bridges—rescue, don't reject.

16

Restore Them

Galatians 6:1 (NIV)

"Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted."

- Paul gives believers a holy task—to restore, not crush.
- Sin may trap people, but grace offers a way out.
- We've all been caught—in pride, temptation, or compromise.
- Praise God—He didn't expose us, He carried us.
- Restoration means more than correcting—it's compassion in action.
- We are not called to condemn but to walk alongside.
- Restoration requires gentleness—a fruit of the Spirit.
- Our goal is not punishment but spiritual healing.

17

Restore Them (Continued)

- Paul says: 'Restore gently'—not forcefully, not publicly.
- Restoration is like healing a dislocated joint—carefully guided.
- Jesus restored Peter, the woman at the well, and others with love.
- To restore is to reset—to realign what has been damaged.
- You don't yank back the fallen—you lift them up slowly.
- True restoration mirrors how Christ handled our own failures.
- It's a ministry of healing, not humiliation.
- Gentleness is not weakness—it's strength under Spirit control.

18

Restore Them (Continued)

- Proverbs 27:17 – 'Iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.'
- Dull iron needs heat and force—but chipped blades need careful filing.
- Some people are not dull—they're wounded and chipped.
- Restoration requires finesse—not force.
- A broken bone isn't slammed into place—it's set with precision.
- We are called to be spiritual healers, not hammer-swingers.
- Restoration is a craft—a divine assignment handled with care.
- Jesus didn't shout at our wounds—He bound them up.

19

Restore Them (Continued)

- Gentleness is how God restores you—model it to others.
- Restoration is firm in truth but full of grace.
- Don't prove your holiness—walk with the wounded until they're whole.
- Drop the rock, pick up the robe of grace.
- Lay down judgment, lift up healing.
- Be the hand that guides, not the voice that shames.
- Jesus didn't expose your shame—He covered you with mercy.
- Now go do the same: Restore gently, reflect Christ.

20

End of Ralph's Story

- Ralph stormed out with his pistol, ready to take action.
- His wife heard the commotion and immediately called him.
- For 20 minutes, she spoke life, truth, and love into him.
- She reminded Ralph of how he'd manipulated and lied to friends.
- She urged him to remember how drugs had clouded his memory.
- She pleaded with him to consider the consequences of violence.
- She declared that Jesus Christ still loved him, no matter what.
- She encouraged him to forgive and let Christ work things out.

21

End of Ralph's Story (Continued)

- Ralph arrived at the apartment, gripped by anger and confusion.
- As he sat, patting his pistol, his wife's words echoed in his heart.
- His friend came out—alerted by Ralph's wife—and approached the car.
- Gently, his friend returned the drugs Ralph had forgotten in his stupor.
- No one had clipped Ralph—he had simply lost track while intoxicated.
- Conviction hit Ralph hard; he saw how wrong his assumptions had been.
- He thanked his friend, humbled, and quietly drove back home.
- Ralph dropped his rocks—choosing mercy, repentance, and Christ's grace.

22

Salvation and Benediction

Ralph Dropped his Rocks.

We are all in need of grace. None of us is without sin.

Don't be quick to condemn others. Jesus models mercy over judgment.

Jesus offers a second chance. We can leave our past behind and walk in newness.

Now let me go the "yearlest" way.

If you are a Christian, model Jesus's Grace

If you are not a Christian, I have some "Good News" for you.

Today, you can become a Christian by accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

Then, you too, can model Jesus's Grace.

23

Salvation and Benediction (Continued)

Romans 10:9-10

"That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

24

Salvation and Benediction (Continued)



Jude 24 -25
²⁴ To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—²⁵ to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14
¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

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