

a script from
skitguys.com

“Stoned”

by
Dave Tippett

What This Readers Theater recounts the story of the adulterous woman and exposes our own tendencies to judge others and avoid being real about our own struggles.

Themes: Forgiveness, Judgment, Honesty, Adulterous Woman, Parable

Who Reader 1
Reader 2
Reader 3

When Present

**Wear
(Props)** Black binders for each Reader, unless script is memorized.

Why John 8:1-11

How A lot of these lines have one word for each character, so the rhythm of the delivery needs to be smooth, as if one person is speaking. The dialogue needs to flow. It's important in Reader's Theatre that everyone work together to tell the story. For more ideas, watch the video [How To Perform a Reader's Theatre at SkitGuys.com](http://www.SkitGuys.com).

Time Approximately 3 minutes

Readers enter and address the audience.

Reader 1: They wanted to stone her.

Reader 2: The adulterous woman.

Reader 3: For her sin. They found out about it.

Reader 1: And wanted to punish.

Reader 2: Act harshly. With—

All: —extreme prejudice.

Reader 1: Act...in the name of God.

Reader 2: Or so they thought.

Reader 3: For God was nowhere near.

Pause

Reader 2: Or so they thought.

Reader 1: They cornered her, death on their minds.

Reader 3: To teach a lesson.

Reader 3: She'd been caught. Now was the time for real—

Reader 2: justice.

Reader 1: In the name of God.

Reader 2: Ironically...

Reader 3: God spoke.

Reader 1: "Go ahead and throw your death. Give it your best shot."

Reader 2: But—

Reader 3: But—

All: But—

Reader 1: "Before you do—let the one without sin—

All: throw first."

Pause

Reader 2: Hello?

Pause

Reader 3: Nothing. Silence.

Reader 2: Embarrassment. Backs turned. Eyes averted. For today anyway.

Reader 3: The woman. Caught. Now given freedom.

Reader 1: "Go and sin no more."

Reader 3: God spoke.

Pause

Reader 1: Are we afraid—

Reader 2: To be that woman?

Reader 3: Because sometimes we're afraid the angry crowd—

Reader 1: *Won't* be turned away.

Reader 2: Despite—

All: What God says.

Reader 1: Afraid that the stones would fly—

Reader 2: Right past His head.

Reader 3: Past His head.

Reader 2: Past His words.

Reader 1: And find their mark.

Pause

Reader 1: But what if—

Reader 2: Getting caught.

Reader 3: Wasn't a bad thing?

Reader 1: That the stones would drop.

Reader 2: Maybe never even gathered.

Reader 3: That His words...

Reader 1: And His people...

Reader 2: Would be one.

Reader 3: One.

Reader 1: One.

All: One.

Reader 1: I wonder if the woman had seen the stones before.

Reader 2: And tried to hide.

Reader 3: An actress, born out of necessity.

Reader 1: There are no stones if you don't tell.

Reader 2: Or are careful enough.

Reader 3: Acting is better than dealing with deaf ears. Stuffed with judgments.

Reader 1: "If I act like them, I don't disappoint anyone. No one will know."

Reader 1: Never thinking she could tell.

Reader 2: Anyone.

Reader 3: Too many stones around.

Reader 1: And not enough open hands.

Reader 2: Hearts.

Reader 3: To be real with.

Reader 2: To trust.

Reader 1: "If I can fake it, why share it?"

Pause

Reader 1: We...can be so quick.

Reader 2: Quick.

Reader 3: Quick.

Reader 1: Quick to take the adulterous woman to be stoned.

Reader 2: Instead.

Reader 1: Real.

Reader 2: Being Real.

Reader 3: Being real about the darkness.

Reader 1: Each other's.

Reader 2: And especially our own.

Reader 1: Shining light on it.

Reader 2: Beating the stones together...

Reader 3: To create:

Reader 1: A new spark.

Reader 2: A new spark.

Reader 3: A new spark. Of—

All: Light.

Lights fade.