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02.16.2020 — New Life Church

FOR

## Let's Play "For" Or "Against"

📖 *John 8:1-11* — A woman caught in adultery

📖 *Romans 8:31-39*

1. Who can be against us? *[vs 31]*
2. Who will bring a charge against us spiritually? *[vs 33]*
3. Who will condemn us spiritually? *[vs 34]*
4. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? *[vs 35]*

*"the air of surprised relief pervades .... we look around to see who has condemned us and discover that they've all gone. The many things that threaten to separate you from the powerful love which reaches out through the cross and resurrection, are all beaten foes." — NT. Wright*

- **The truth we live in** *(we struggle to believe it is so)*
- **The message we present** *(we know it has not always been)*
- **The approach we utilize** *(how we live and share the message)*
  - » "for" our friends / "for" our family / "for" the lonely and left out
  - » "for" Collingwood

*"Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."*

📖 *Jeremiah 29:7*

## 2 Questions...

1 | *Do you believe God is "for you"?*

2 | *Who are you for?*

*I'm running as fast as I can...*

<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

<sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

📖 *Romans 8:31-39*

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1. As you look back over your life who is one person who you felt was "for" you? How did you know that? What did they do? What affect did it have on you?
2. Read John 8:1-11. Put yourself in the story. What do you observe? How does it make you feel?
3. Read Romans 8:31. Why is it hard to believe God is "for" us? Why do you think the church has done such a poor job of presenting this truth?
4. What might a group of Christians who are "for" people actually look like? Describe what might be happening and what things the group would not want to have as part of this way of living.
5. How can you be "for" your friends? How can you as a church be "for" Collingwood? How might this help with the problem of loneliness?



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