Notes for Reading v Watford

When the sacking of Mark Sampson hit the headlines many people were quick to criticise and condemn. The trouble is none of us are perfect. When Jesus was encouraged to punish a woman accused of wrongdoing he said to the group of people with him “Whichever one of you has committed no sin may throw the first stone at her…they all left one by one. Jesus was left alone with the woman still standing there.” You can read how the story ends in Chapter 8 of the book of John in the Bible.

Confession of one’s faults is one of the most liberating religious practices ever invented, allowing us to face up to our mistakes and let go of them. It means we do not have to carry the burden of them around with us, bound to the past for ever. Even though we may have said sorry to God for our wrongdoings we may also need to apologise to the person we have been rude to, or return a stolen item, undo a malicious rumour or rebuild a broken relationship. Only then we can be free to move on.

May today’s match be played with a good spirit and may we be gracious enough to accept when mistakes are made, knowing that we too are only human. Enjoy the game with me. C’mon Urzzz.