

Sermon Guide

Luke 7:36-50



► In Luke 7:36-50, Jesus tells a parable about a money lender that forgives two debts: one debt that is equivalent to 2-months wages and one debt equivalent to 20-months wages. How would you feel if you had an enormous debt that was forgiven? Has this ever happened to you? Have you ever experienced the transforming power of forgiveness?

Read [Luke 7:36-50](#)

1. What risk was this “sinful woman” taking in coming to the house of Simon, the Pharisee? What does this tell you about her state of mind?
2. What is your impression of Simon? What do you think Jesus’ purpose was in telling the parable in verses 41-43?
3. What does Jesus see in this woman that Simon does not? How does this affect Jesus’ actions towards her? In this passage, what seems to be Jesus’ main concern? What seems to be Simon’s main concern?
4. How would you respond if you had been at Simon’s house that day? How would you have felt watching the sinful woman anoint Jesus?

GROW



► Do you identify more with the sinful woman or Simon the Pharisee? Do you see yourself as a “pretty good person” with little debt to forgive or a sinful person indebted to God?

► Do you see sinners for who they have been or for what God can make of them? Do you engage with sinners and pursue the lost or attempt to distance yourself from them?

GLORIFY

•✠ Professor Darrell Bock states, “He [Jesus] understands that in order for light to shine in darkness, the light must engage the darkness.” Rather than separating Himself from sinners, Jesus engages with sinners and offers a right relationship with God through the power forgiveness. Thanks be to God that Jesus is a friend of sinners, just like us! Listen to the song, read the lyrics, and/or sing along to [Jesus Friend of Sinners](#) by Casting Crowns. May our prayer echo the lyrics of the song: “Let our hearts be led by mercy. Help us reach with open ears and open doors. Oh Jesus, friend of sinners, break our hearts for what breaks yours.”