

Jesus Even Forgives Sins

Luke 7:36-50 ▪ Sunday, June 8, 2025 ▪ Ryan Wildauer

Jesus' Message:

Those who are _____ much, _____ much. (40-47)

Simon's Question:

Who is Jesus?—A _____ ...a _____ ... a _____ of sins? (39-40, 48-49)

The Sinful Woman's Gift:

_____ to the one who knew the _____ of her sin. (37-38, 47-50)

Luke 7:36-50

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. ³⁷ And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸ and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹ "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴ Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my

head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.⁴⁷ Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.”⁴⁸ And he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”⁴⁹ Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, “Who is this, who even forgives sins?”⁵⁰ And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: Have you ever received an act of kindness that was completely undeserved? What was that experience like for you, and how did it make you feel towards the giver?

Read & Discuss: Luke 7:36-50

1. This passage describes a woman entering a Pharisee’s home and interacting with Jesus in a very unexpected way. What actions of the woman stand out to you, and what do they communicate about her feelings and intentions?
2. How would you describe the internal reactions of Simon, the Pharisee (not Simon Peter who was one of Jesus’ twelve apostles) toward this woman (v. 39)? What are ways we might feel something similar towards others—or even towards ourselves?
3. Jesus tells Simon a parable about two debtors (vv. 41-43). What is the main point Jesus is trying to convey to Simon through this short story?
4. After telling the parable, Jesus directly contrasts Simon’s actions with the woman’s actions (vv. 44-46). How was Jesus treated differently by Simon in contrast with the woman? What do these differences imply about their understanding of who Jesus is and their own need for Him?
5. Verse 47 states, “Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.” How do you understand the relationship between forgiveness and love in this verse? Does her love cause her forgiveness, or is it a result of it? What’s the practical difference in how this is understood?
6. The other guests respond with “Who is this, who even forgives sins?” (v. 49). What does this reaction reveal about their understanding of Jesus’ authority? How does Jesus’ interaction with this woman and His claim to forgive sins challenge their expectation of who Jesus is and what He can do?
7. Jesus tells the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace” (v. 50). Considering this entire account, what role does faith play in this woman’s encounter with Jesus? What does this final statement teach us about the source of her salvation and the ultimate conclusion Luke wants us to draw from this narrative?

Apply: If Jesus were to evaluate your heart today, what would He say about your love and gratitude toward Him? What is one way you can either cultivate or express your love and gratitude to Jesus more intentionally this week?

Pray: Pray for hearts full of faith in Christ that overflow with love and gratitude for Christ.