

Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.

Luke 7:47

I. GODLY SORROW

- Jesus has agreed to eat with a proud sinner. A humble sinner also arrives uninvited (Vss. 36-38; 2 Cor. 7:10).
- Simon the Pharisee's suspicions are confirmed; Jesus is no prophet (Vs. 39).
- Jesus is prophet enough to know Simon's thoughts (Vss. 39-40).

II. A SHORT STORY WITH TEETH

- Jesus shares a very brief story with Simon and the other guests. It is a prelude to a point (Vss. 41-42; Luke 10:25-37).
- The story demonstrates Simon's lack of desire to be forgiven, and the woman's great desire for forgiveness (Vss. 44-46).
- Genuine repentance is demonstrable. It is a gift from God, and when it is real, it leads to salvation (Matt. 3:8; Acts 26:19-20; Eph. 2:10; 2 Tim. 2:22-26).

III. GREAT FORGIVENESS LEADS TO GREAT LOVE

- Those who sin little (or not at all) have no desire for forgiveness (1 John 1:5-10).
- Those who sin much (and know it), love much when the grace and mercy of God is extended to them. This leads to humility...never to pride (Vs. 47; Luke 19:9-14).

IV. WHO IS THIS?

- This is Jesus of Nazareth, the God-Man. Merciful, compassionate, giving life to the dead, forgiving sins, and promising life (John 5:21, 6:37, 40, 44, 53).

KNOW: The woman of the city went from sinner to saint in one sitting, and left forgiven and at peace. She demonstrated true repentance and loved much. Therefore, she was forgiven much.

DO: Love much. Find forgiveness in Jesus.

Suggested Reading:

On the Incarnation by St. Athanasius of Alexandria
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

Pleased to Dwell: A Biblical Introduction to the Incarnation by Peter Mead
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

For Children:

Who Is Jesus? by Kate Hox
(Available in the LifePoint Children's Library)

**Questions/Discovery Points for
Life Groups/Families**

Please Read Luke 7:36-50

1. Why would Jesus accept an invitation to eat with a Pharisee?
2. Why did Jesus allow an unclean woman to touch him?
3. Why does the Pharisee (Simon) come to the conclusion that Jesus is not a prophet? What does he expect out of Jesus?
4. What is the point of Jesus' parable?
5. Is this woman saved by her good works (great love, a show of repentance)? If not, how/why was she forgiven?
6. What does this narrative reveal to us about the character of God?
7. What are your takeaways from this text? Your application?