



Loving the Unlovely

Jesus Exposé – Part 3

Luke 7:36-50

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Q. Who among you are the most difficult people to love?

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."

Three Essential Lessons: Jesus love when:

- I. People *acknowledge* their sin (Vs.37-38)
- II. People *fully* recognize their need for forgiveness. (Vs.40-46)
 - a. Understand the disposition of their heart.
 - b. Respond their spiritual pride or poverty.
- III. People *allow* love and forgiveness to transform them. (Vs.47-50)

Point: The more you understand forgiveness, the more you are able to love

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. Have you ever experienced radical forgiveness?
2. What is the greatest lesson you've learned about forgiveness?
3. Who do you need to forgive? Who do you need to love?
4. With which person in this story do you most identify, and why?
5. Do you appreciate the extent of God's mercy? Are you grateful for God's forgiveness? Do you treat it lightly? Do you treat it seriously?

