

WEEK 5 - ANOINTED BY A SINFUL WOMAN

OVERVIEW

One of the most tender and powerful stories in the gospels is when a "sinful" woman anoints Jesus' feet with perfume. Having encountered the overwhelming grace of God in the person of Christ, she chooses to make an extravagant display of her gratitude and love for him. This broken, lost, and shame-filled woman found refuge and compassion in Jesus, and her life would never be the same.

Do we truly believe God has forgiven our darkest sins? How do we respond to this profound grace and love? Do we trust Jesus enough to believe him when he looks us in the eyes and says, "your sins are forgiven"?

I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.

Luke 7:47

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How would you show respect to an elder?
- 2. Read <u>Luke 7:36-50</u> (click the link to read it online). How does this scene make you feel?
- 3. Barry mentions that in verse 47 it says that the woman's sins were already forgiven at an earlier time. The woman came to show Jesus her gratitude. Does focusing on this twist change the story for you? If so, how?
- 4. If you met Jesus in person, and he forgave your sins, how would you thank him?
- 5. What does this "moment with Jesus" reveal about his character?
- 6. Read <u>Luke 4:18-19.</u> The word "released" here is the same word Jesus uses in <u>Luke 7:48</u> when he tells the woman her sins are "forgiven", they are released. He also tells her to "go in peace" in verse 50. Describe what this really means- for her or for anyone.
- 7. Has the time of the Lord's favor come for you? Are you going in peace? Answer these and the questions in the overview above.