

Sermon #16: Title

05/16/21

BREAKING THE ICE

- What impacted you most about this week's message?

UNDERSTANDING THE TRUTH

Read the Passage (Luke 7:36-50)

1. How would you describe the difference between how Simon, the Pharisee, viewed Jesus and how the "sinful" woman viewed Jesus, according to verses 36-39?
2. How would you summarize the point of Jesus' parable that He told to Simon?
3. Jesus' parable is intended to set a pattern or a trend. The trend is, the more you've been forgiven, the more you will love. Conversely, the less you have been forgiven, the less you will love. What would be the logical conclusion, then, for someone who shows no love at all?
4. In first century Jewish culture it was a basic (not extravagant) custom to wash a guests feet, greet them with a kiss, and anoint them with oil. This showed the most basic of hospitality (or love). Knowing this, what is Jesus indirectly saying about Simon's forgiveness based on the love he failed to show Jesus in verses 44-47?
5. What are some words you would use to describe the woman's love for Jesus?
6. This woman's perfume would have been a significant part of her livelihood as a prostitute. It was extremely expensive. What does her radical display communicate about her faith in Jesus?
7. Some might confuse what Jesus says in verses 47-48 to mean that because of her great love, her sins are forgiven. How can referring back to Jesus' teaching in the parable of verses 41-42 show that forgiveness precedes love?
8. Instead, Jesus was simply saying that the visibility of her present love proves that the "invisibility" of her sins having been forgiven is true. What can you conclude about the state of Simon's salvation from this?
9. How does Luke use verse 49 to get his readers to consider Who Jesus is?
10. How does verse 50 reveal the means by which someone can receive forgiveness from Jesus?

SEEING JESUS CHRIST

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21. Jesus lived a life that was in need of no forgiveness, yet He actually loved the most. We love because we have first been loved. We love because we have first been forgiven. Jesus loves because it is just Who He is. He lived a more righteous life than the Pharisees and yet was willing to be treated worse than the sinful woman. He was rejected and ridiculed while living sinless and perfectly. No greater love has been shown than this.

- How does the love of Jesus move you to acknowledge your sin more openly, experience His forgiveness more deeply so you can love more radically?

MAKING IT MATTER

1. How do you see similar scenarios to this story playing out in the church today?
2. What is your response when you see someone demonstrating a radical love for Jesus?
3. What obstacles prevent you from showing this kind of love for Jesus?
4. What personal “goodness” are you still trusting that prevents you from loving Jesus more extravagantly?

PRAYING FOR GOD’S POWER

“This is the confidence we have before him: If we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of him.” 1 John 5:14-15

When we pray according to God’s will it engages the power and guidance of God to bring about our transformation. If we apply these things in our own strength, then it is just legalistic obedience. But, when we humbly ask God to change us and empower us according to His will and by His Spirit, it becomes transformational AND it glorifies God.

1. Ask people to share one key, specific application from today’s lesson that they want God to bring about in their life. Then take time to pray for each other in these areas.