

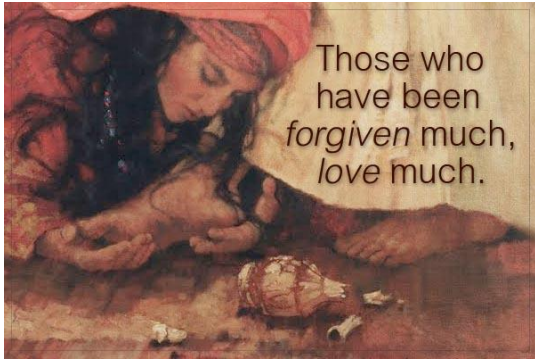
Bless The Lord

Sunday, April 30th, 2017

Pastor Adam

“Worship is our response to God for who He is, and what He has done. It is expressed in the things that we say and by the way that we live.” ~ Louie Giglio

John 4:23 "The time is coming, indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way." (Engaging both Heart and Head)



Luke 7:36–50 Jesus worshipped by a sinful woman.

Proper etiquette for hosts:

Host would go to each guest and place his hand on their shoulder and give a “kiss of peace” on each cheek.

Host would have a servant unlace their guest’s sandals and pour cool water over their feet.

Host would have a small drop of scented oil or perfume placed on the head of each guest – providing a soothing aroma for the weary guest and a scent for the dining room.

1. Simon was giving an obvious snub to Jesus in front of his many guests. Jesus notices but says nothing.
2. Luke mentions the Pharisees 28 times in his Gospel account and every time they are in some kind of dispute or being hostile toward Jesus.
3. Simon invited Jesus over, not because he’s considering becoming a disciple – he invited Him over to try to prove that He isn’t a prophet after all.
4. Simon said, “She is a sinner” – someone devoted to sin, who makes sin their business.

Worship comes from a place of **Humility**.

We know from history that in this culture:

- Students would kiss the hand of their teachers.
- Peers would kiss on the cheek.
- The lowest in society would kiss the feet of the one they were indebted to.

For years, traditional commentary viewed her letting down her hair as suggestive or even off-color. More recent research have shown that not to be true... but rather they see this as a sign of true worship or deep respect. **1 Corinthians 11:15** “A woman’s long hair is her glory.” This woman laid down her glory to wipe someone’s feet.

The woman’s desire to see Jesus was greater than her fear or shame.

“Her tears are water coming directly from her heart. These are tears of gratitude bathing the Lord’s feet as she sobs uncontrollably, lost in wonder, and lost in genuine love and worship.”
~Martin Luther

Pride has no place in Worship.

Jesus addresses Simon: “I have something to say to you!”

An expression used to introduce a blunt speech that the listener may not want to hear.

Boss calling employee into his office. “Sit down, I’ve got something to tell you.”

Doctor calling his patient. “I got your results back and there’s something I need to tell you.”

Mother saying to her child. Come down to the kitchen, there’s something I need to tell you.”

Simon knows both he and the prostitute are being compared. Simon is not happy about being lumped into the same category with the prostitute. Jesus says they are both bankrupt. Both need mercy!

The really convicting point about this parable is not the amount of sin but the awareness of sin.

Simon the Pharisee	The Sinful woman
Religious leader	Prostitute
No emotion	Wept
No water to wash	Washed His feet with tears
No kiss	Kissed His feet
No anointing oil	Poured perfume on His feet
No sacrifice	Sacrificed much
Treated Jesus with disrespect	Treated Jesus with respect
Esteemed Jesus as ordinary	Esteemed as extraordinary
Forgiven little, loved little	Forgiven much, loved much

Three Insights Into Worship...

1. Worship Begins With An Understanding of God's love.

- This revelation is what draws you to Christ.
 - **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
 - **1 John 4:9** "God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him." (NLT)
 - **Ephesians 3:17-19** _____

2. Worship Creates A Response From Our Hearts.

- Once we experience God's love, we are compelled to act.
- **Luke 15** Shares the stories of three accounts of being lost and found.
 - Lost Coin
 - Lost Sheep
 - Lost Son
 - After messing up and now working in a pig farm, he had a revelation of his father's love.
 - He had the choice to stay in his current situation or run back to his father.
- When we understand how much we have been forgiven, it makes us bold!
 - **Ephesians 3:12** "Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God's presence." (NLT)
 - **Hebrews 10:19, 22** _____

3. Worship Will Transform Our Lives.

- When we understand God's love for us, we aren't able to think the same or live the same!
- We won't be able to worship half-hearted anymore!
- Worship will stir the emotions of our soul!
 - It's okay to express your feelings and emotions through tears and weeping.
 - The sinful woman had a physical display of worship.
 - She was on her knees, she kissed His feet, she wiped His feet with her tears.
 - We can dance, jump and shout when we worship.

"YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU!"

- Not using all of her perfume. (Can't give enough to save yourself)
- Not crying from deep within. (Emotions won't save you)
- Not wiping Jesus feet with her hair. (Good deeds won't save you)

"Go in peace" – Jesus raised her up, didn't leave her on the floor. (He made her righteous)