

Friday  
**Luke 7:36–50**

Simon the Pharisee heard Jesus teach and decided to invite him over for dinner along with some other guests. Now the Pharisees were very careful about whom they invited to dinner, because they did not want to be associating with dirty people, or people they didn't like, or people who disobeyed their religious laws.

While Jesus was reclining at the dinner table in Simon's house, a woman entered and stood near Jesus. The woman was known to be a sinner. But she loved Jesus, because he had forgiven her sins.

The woman saw that Simon was not treating Jesus with much honor. No one had washed Jesus' feet, which were still dusty from the road. She knew that he deserved better treatment than that. The woman began to cry. She wet Jesus' feet with her tears. She took her long hair and wiped his feet. Then she kissed Jesus' feet and anointed his feet with expensive perfume she had brought with her in a beautiful little bottle.

Simon and the other people who were eating with Jesus were shocked that he was letting her do this. They looked at each other and said, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what sort of a woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner."

Jesus was not only a prophet, but the Son of God. He told them a story to teach about God's love.

Jesus said that two people owed money to a moneylender. One owed 500 pieces of money. The other person owed 50 pieces. Neither person had enough money to pay back what they owed. Since the moneylender knew that neither person could pay, he said that the two people did not have to pay back any of the money at all. He forgave them both their debt.

After telling this story, Jesus asked Simon which one of the two people would now love the moneylender more.

Simon said that the man who had owed the most would be the one to love the moneylender the most.

Jesus told Simon that he was right. Then he turned toward the woman and 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. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven – and she loves me much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little."

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."

The other people at the table began to whisper to each other, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?"

Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

In faith, a sinful woman anointed Jesus' feet. He had forgiven her sins, and she wanted to show her love and thankfulness to him. In faith, we receive forgiveness for our sins and show love and praise to Jesus, too.

- **Why did the woman wash Jesus' feet with her tears, dry them with her hair, and then put expensive perfume on them? Why did she love Jesus so much?**
- **Why did Simon think Jesus should not let her touch him?**
- **In what ways are you like this sinful woman?**