



JULY 9/10, 2022

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 7: 36-38

OPTIONAL STUDY DURING BREAKS

Scripture Reading: Luke 7: 36-38 (NIV)

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

As a group, think through each truth and answer:

If you think about it, we are all in the same place as this woman in the passage. We're all sinners in desperate need of a Savior. It's just that this woman recognized the seriousness of her sin. As time goes on, however, our faith can feel run down or even un-alive. The trials of life can often leave us callous to God's love. Like the Pharisees, we can lose our childlike awe of Christ.

1. Do you remember when you first received Christ as your personal Lord and Savior? What was it like?
2. Do you feel your love for Him has gotten stronger through the years, or has it gotten weaker? If weaker, what happened?

Pastor Josiah shared that we can become rigid and mechanical in our relationship with God. We can sit at the table wanting to be served by Jesus or the church. Rather thinking about how we can serve Christ, we become extremely judgmental of everyone around us, including those who are actually serving. We can even sit at the table with Jesus, and yet fail to recognize that He is sitting right in front of us! We must not outgrow our first love of Jesus!

1. How did Jesus describe the woman's love for Him versus Simon's love for Him?
2. Are we more like the woman or like Simon?

Live it. Pastor Alex mentioned that sometimes we just need to stop caring about what others think about us and simply worship God for who he is. He asked us to raise our hands, to sing out loud or to even bow down in worship to God during worship songs, no matter how uncomfortable it may seem at first. In other words, we should REALLY worship God for all that he is and has done for us.

1. Ask God to give you that childlike faith you once had.
2. What could you do differently today to get back your first love with Christ?
3. How can you worship God today in vulnerability rather than as a mere formality?