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The Extravagant Love of Forgiven Women

Bible Reading: Luke 7:36 - 8:3

The Setting (Lk. 7:36-37)

- A. A Pharisee invited Jesus to eat at his home (11:37-54; 14:1-24)
- B. Jesus entered the Pharisee's home & reclined at the table
- C. A sinful woman found out Jesus was there & entered the home with an alabaster jar

The Woman in Luke 7 Is Not Mary Magdalene, or Mary of Bethany: A Unique Account

- A. Mary Magdalene Maligned: Three Women Conflated & Confused in Christian History
- B. This Woman is Not Mary of Bethany (Mt. 26; Mk. 14; John 12)

The Sinful Woman's Extravagant Love (Lk. 7:38)

- A. She stood behind Jesus at his feet
- B. She wept & washed Jesus' feet with her tears
- C. She wiped Jesus' wet feet with her hair
- D. She anointed Jesus' feet with perfume

The Pharisee Judges Jesus in His Heart (Lk. 7:39)

- A. Said to himself, *"If this man were a prophet, he'd know who was touching him – a sinner."* –
- B. religious separationism (Lk. 5:27-32)

Jesus Responds to the Pharisee with a Parable (Lk. 7:40-43)

- A. Simon gives Jesus permission to speak (v. 40)
- B. The parable of forgiveness & gratitude (vv. 41-42)
- C. Simon understands the parable (v. 43)

The Pharisees' Rudeness Exposed (Lk. 7:44-47)

- A. His rudeness; his poor hospitality
 - 1. He gave Jesus no water for his feet
 - 2. He gave Jesus no kiss of greeting
 - 3. He gave Jesus no oil for his hair
- B. Recognizing the extent of our sin versus the quantity of our sin causes us to love more (v. 47)
- C. Discovering forgiveness in Jesus results in faith & is expressed in love

Jesus Addresses the Forgiven Woman (Lk. 7:48-50)

- A. Jesus said, "*Your sins are forgiven.*"
- B. The other Pharisees in attendance are puzzled, "*Who is this who even forgives sins?*"
- C. Jesus said to the woman, "*Your faith has saved you; go in peace.*"

Jesus' Female Disciples Served with Extravagant Love (Lk. 8:1-3)

- A. Jesus traveled around proclaiming the kingdom of God (4:43; 9:2, 11, 60; 10:11; 11:20; 12:31-32)
- B. Jesus formed an inclusive community to be his disciples (Lk. 5:1-11, 27-28; 6:12-16; 8:1-3)
- C. Female disciples who'd been cured of evils spirits & diseases traveled with Jesus
 - 1. Mary Magdalene had seven demons cast out of her
 - 2. Joanna, wife of Chuza, manager of Herod Antipas' (Ruler of Galilee) household (Lk. 24:10)
 - 3. Susanna
 - 4. Many other women
 - 5. Supported financially the ministry of Jesus
- D. These women supported Jesus financially

Application

- A. Understanding this passage through the perspective of each character
- B. The role of women in the church
- C. Beware of overly separating oneself
- D. Showing others the way to Jesus' feet
- E. Not misusing Jesus' being with the sinful woman
- F. Our blind spots