



Forgiving the Unlovely | Luke 7:36-50

1. Share about a time in your life when you were incredibly thankful and relieved. How did you express your gratitude?
2. Read together V36-38 How is the woman described? What different emotions does she express? What do you think motivated her to seek Jesus out and respond in this way?
3. What does this cameo reveal to us about how we can/should approach Jesus? What might it mean for you to respond to Jesus the way this woman has? Might our worship be different if we were more concerned with honouring Jesus than what others think?
4. V39 how does the host react to the uninvited guest? How do you think he feels about himself? How does he feel about Jesus? How quick are we to judge others whether it be by the way they look or the way they worship? How can we guard against this?
5. Read v 40-43. What is the point of the story Jesus is telling? What is the significance of the money lender cancelling the debt? How does this story help to explain the woman's actions?
6. V44-47 Discuss the differences between Simon and the woman in their treatment of Jesus? What is Simon missing? What are some of the barriers that hinder us/others from accepting Jesus' forgiveness and love?
7. V47 What characterises those who have received and grasped God's forgiveness? What are some of the ways we may demonstrate that we are forgiven to God/ to others?
8. V50 how do you think the woman felt? How has she shown faith? According to this woman's witness, what is true faith in Jesus?
9. How easy do you find it to forgive others? Is it possible to completely forgive everyone who has hurt us? How important is it that we forgive others? Have a quick look at Matthew 6:12,14-15, 18:21-35 alongside our reading in Luke. How does the woman's story help us on the journey of forgiving others?
10. Close with Paul's words in Ephesians 2:1-10 leading into worship and thanksgiving for God's amazing grace and forgiveness, and praying for God's help to live as those who are both forgiven and forgiving.