THE UNINVITED GUEST
ADVENTURES IN MISSING THE POINT- PART 2
Message #1289
Pastor Keith Stewart
August, 15-16, 2015

1. THE SETTING AND THE SCANDAL

☐ What does not happen
☐ What does happen
  • She kisses his dirty feet.
  • She breaks out in tears.
  • She lets down her hair.
  • She anoints His feet.

2. THE CORRECTION IN THE PARABLE

☐ Simon’s flawed reasoning
☐ Jesus’ bold confrontation

3. THE PROBLEM WITH PERCEPTIONS

☐ Do you see this woman?
☐ Do you see me?
☐ Do you see yourself?

Welcome to Springcreek!
If it is your first time with us, we would love to get to know you better. Please fill out a response card in the seat-back pocket in front of you and take it by the Welcome Center or drop it in any offering box. We will give you more information about Springcreek and how you can be a part of our community.

Need Prayer, Pastoral Care or Spiritual Direction?
Pastors and chaplains are here to help you. Visit our Prayer Team after services at the front of the auditorium or contact LifeCare Pastor David Hood at: 214.403.2127 or at: springcreekchurch.org/adults/lifecare.

Giving
Springcreek is supported by the generous contributions of the members and attendees of the church. You can give through offering boxes placed throughout the lobby and auditorium, the giving kiosk, or online at: springcreekchurch.org.

Get Equipped - Get Engaged
Upcoming events and classes:

Springcreek Blood Drive
Sunday, August 16, 8:30am - 12:30pm - Parking lot

The Shelter: Women’s Sexual Abuse Support
Sunday, August 23, 6:00-8:00pm, Contact Marsha Moore at: 214.886.9322

Men’s Barbecue at the Freeman House - 18 and up only
Friday, August 28, 6:30-9:00pm, 13336 Southview Lane, Dallas, Tx, 75240

Rhythm of Life Experience with Pastor David Hood
Saturday, August 29, 10:00am-11:30am

Faith in Texas One-to-One Teach-In with the Justice Team
Sunday, August 30, 12:45-2:45pm

Living Out Our Faith: Practical Tips from the Book of James with Pastor Travis Hill
Tuesdays, September 1 and 8, 7:00-8:30pm

For more information, a full list of upcoming events and classes, or to RSVP, visit: springcreekchurch.org or stop by the Welcome Center after service.

Next week, save resources and get expanded message notes by using our digital service guide - just scan the QR codes at the doors or visit Springcreekchurch.org!

Unless otherwise noted, all verse references are from the New International Version (NIV)

Springcreek Church / 2660 Belt Line Road / Garland, TX 75044 / 972.494.5683 / springcreekchurch.org
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Expanded Message Resources

(Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8)

Step Parallelism or Chiastic Structure

Introduction (the Pharisee, Jesus, and woman)
   The outpouring of the woman’s love (in action)
      A dialogue (Simon judges wrongly)
         A parable (the climactic point)
      A dialogue (Simon judges rightly)
   The outpouring of the woman’s love (in retrospect)
Conclusion (the Pharisee, Jesus and the woman)

1. THE SETTING AND THE SCANDAL

   What does not happen

   “This scene is filled with tension introduced by what did not happen. As Jesus entered the house, all the traditional courtesies were omitted...When these common acts of welcome were omitted, Jesus had the full right to say, ‘I see that I am not welcome here!’ and leave, flushed with anger. This is not the way He responded.”
   - Dr. Kenneth Bailey, Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes

   What does happen

   “She has heard from the community where [Jesus] was to be entertained. . . she has come prepared . . . Her intent is to pour the flask [of perfumed oil] on his feet. . . She witnesses the harsh insult that Jesus receives when he enters the
house of Simon, as Simon deliberately omits the kiss of greeting and the foot washing. The insult to Jesus has to be intentional and electifies the assembled guests. War has been declared and everyone waits to see Jesus' response. . . he absorbs the insult and the hostility behind it and does not withdraw. . . The woman is totally overcome.”
– Dr. Kenneth Bailey, Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes

• She kisses his dirty feet.

• She breaks out in tears.

“She is offering her love and trying to compensate for the insult that Jesus has just received.” – Dr. Kenneth Bailey, Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes

• She lets down her hair.

“No one around the room could have missed the overtones of this woman’s gesture. By unloosing her hair, she is making some form of an ultimate pledge of loyalty to Jesus. The critical question is, Will he accept or reject this extraordinary act?”
– Dr. Kenneth Bailey, Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes

• She anoints His feet

2. THE CORRECTION IN THE PARABLE

- Simon’s flawed reasoning

Premise:
If Jesus were a prophet, He would know people’s character.
If Jesus knew this woman was a sinner, He would have nothing to do with her.

Conclusions:
Since Jesus has accepted this woman, He does not know her character.
Since Jesus does not know this woman is a sinner, He cannot be a prophet.
Since Jesus is not a prophet, I can reject Him, His message and ministry.
“So no one pities a person who associates with a sinner and becomes involved in the other’s sins.” Ben Sirach 12:14

“What does a wolf have in common with a lamb? No more has a sinner with the devout.” Ben Sirach 13:17

“A prostitute is regarded as spittle....” Ben Sirach 26:22

Jesus’ bold confrontation

I have something to tell you.
Luke 7.40

Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?
Luke 7.41-42

In Aramaic, the word for debt and the word for sin is the same word.

Those who are forgiven most love most.

3. THE PROBLEM WITH PERCEPTIONS

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon…
Luke 7.44

“Jesus’ attitude toward women . . . was one of the things that set him apart from other teachers of the time. Not only was Jesus remembered as treating women with respect, as equals in his circle; not only did he refuse to reduce them to their sexuality; Jesus was expressly portrayed as a man who loved women, and whom women loved.”
– James Carroll, Smithsonian Magazine

Do you see this woman?

Do you see this woman?
Luke 7.44
The name “Simon” means “he has heard.”

“The label seduces us, initially providing identity and understanding, but as soon as you take it on you are trapped, narrowly defined by that label.”
- Robert Alter, The Art of Biblical Narrative

Do you see me? Do you see Jesus? Do you understand Who He really is?

Who is this who even forgives sins?
Luke 7.49

“He who has slight thoughts of sin never has great thoughts of God.”
- Josiah Hotchkiss Gilbert, Dictionary of Burning Words of Brilliant Writers

“The notion of God’s love coming to us free of charge, no strings attached, seems to go against every instinct of humanity. The Buddhist eight-fold path, the Hindu doctrine of karma, the Jewish covenant, and Muslim code of law—each of these offers a way to earn approval. Only Christianity dares to make God’s love unconditional.”
- Philip Yancey, What’s So Amazing About Grace?

Sola scriptura, sola fides, sola gracia—by scripture alone, by faith alone, by grace alone.

Do you see yourself?