

Why Should I Become A Christian?

Lesson 8

Luke 7:36-50

Memory verse

Everyone who receives Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name.
Acts 10:43

Opener

Have you ever had someone do something really nice for you? It feels good when someone is kind/courteous to you! Let's see what happens when someone is kind to Jesus.

Scripture

Luke 7:36-38

Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, and 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.

"Jesus is in town! He is at Simon's house." The woman couldn't believe her ears. Jesus had changed her life. She used to do all kinds of bad things—called sin. One day, she heard about Jesus and He changed her life. She did not ever want to do wrong things again.

The woman thought to herself, "I wonder if I can see Jesus." Then, she had an idea. She grabbed a jar of perfume and rushed off to the house.

She knocked on the door and walked inside.

There was Jesus! He was sitting at the table.

She stood behind Jesus and started to cry. She was so grateful and thankful to Jesus that she began to cry happy tears. She loved Jesus so much and wanted Him to know how happy she was to have a new life.

Then, she bent over and began to wet Jesus' feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair. Next, she kissed Jesus' feet and poured perfume on them. The whole house smelled so sweet. The woman showed how much she cared for Him by doing something special just for Jesus

Discussion

Ask: Can you imagine what all the other guests thought?

Luke 7:39

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

Discussion

They sat there shocked. Then Simon, the man who had invited Jesus to his house, thought to himself, "How could Jesus be God's Son if He is letting this woman touch Him? Doesn't He know who this lady is?" Back then, people who did wrong did not spend time with those who were church people.

Luke 7:40-43

Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. "Two men 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 canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

Jesus told Simon that He wanted to share a story with him. "Two men owed money. One owed 500 and the other 50. They both were told that they did not have to pay the money back. Which of the men was more grateful?" Simon answered, "I think the one who owed more money—the 500—would be more grateful." Jesus said, "That's right!"

Application

Luke 7:44-47

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little."

Ask: What did Jesus say about being grateful for forgiveness of sins?

Jesus told them that the woman had lots of sins that had been forgiven. So she was very grateful. Jesus also told them that she had been so kind to wash His dirty feet with her tears and put sweet smelling perfume on them.

Ask: Why did Jesus tell Simon he was like the man who had been forgiven little?

In that day and time, people walked everywhere. They wore sandals on their feet and their feet became very dusty. When someone was invited into a home a slave or assigned person would wash the feet of the guests. If necessary the host would wash the guests' feet. This provided refreshment.

Jesus told Simon that he did not show kindness or love like the woman. Simon was like the other man that was not very grateful because he was forgiven little. Simon did not have someone wash Jesus' feet as was his duty. At the very least he should have provided water and a basin for Jesus to wash his own feet.

Luke 7:48-50

Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

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

Ask: Why were the men puzzled?

Then Jesus said something that puzzled the guests. He told her that her sins were forgiven. That means that all the bad things she had done (her sins) were erased—gone forever.

The men were shocked because only God could forgive sin. They did not understand how Jesus could say that. They did not understand that He was God's Son. Then Jesus told the woman to go in peace because her faith/belief in Him had saved her and made a way for her to go to Heaven.

Ask: How can you have peace?

God can totally change your life. Look at the woman. She was joyful and excited. Jesus had cleaned away all her mistakes and wrongs. She was free and knew that one day she would be in Heaven with God.

The woman knew that Jesus was God's Son. She knew that He could clean out her dirty, dark heart. When she came to Him and was sorry for all the bad things she had done, Jesus forgave her and made her heart clean. Because she believed, Jesus told her that she was saved. That means that she would go to Heaven. She changed her ways, too. She did not want to do wrong anymore. She wanted to live a clean life and do what Jesus would do.

Ask: Do you want to become a Christian?

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.