

JESUS WAS ANOINTED

Luke 7



One of the Pharisees named Simon invited Jesus to dinner at his house. While Jesus was reclining at the table, a sinful woman carrying a jar of perfume came to Him. She stood behind Jesus at His feet and was crying. Then she began to wash His feet with her tears. She wiped His feet with her hair, kissed them, and rubbed perfume on them.

The Pharisee thought to himself, “If this man were a prophet, He would know who is touching Him and what kind of woman she is—she’s a sinner!”

Jesus knew what Simon was thinking. He said, “Simon, I have something to say to you.”

“Say it, Teacher,” replied Simon.

Jesus said, “A man let two different people borrow some money. He loaned one man 50 expensive coins, and he loaned the other man 500 expensive coins. Neither of these men were able to pay him back, so he forgave them both, meaning they no longer had to pay him back.

“Who will be more thankful and loving toward the man?” asked Jesus.

Simon answered, “I suppose the one he forgave more—the one who owed 500 coins.”

“You have answered correctly,” Jesus said.

“Do you see this woman, Simon? When I entered your house, you did not give Me any water to wash My feet. But this woman has washed My feet with her tears, dried them with her hair, and hasn’t stopped kissing My feet since I came in. You didn’t anoint My head with olive oil, but she has anointed My feet with perfume. I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven. That’s why she loves Me so much. But the one who is forgiven little, loves little.”

Then Jesus turned to the woman and said, “Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

Those who were eating at Simon’s house began to say to themselves, “Who is this man who forgives sins?”

Christ Connection: Everyone has sinned and owes a debt they could never repay. Jesus, the only sinless one, died in our place to pay the debt for our sin. When we trust in Jesus, we are forgiven of all our sins and are credited with Jesus’ perfect life.



1 WELCOME TIME

Greet each preteen as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

•**How do you welcome a guest into your home? Do you tidy up the space before they arrive? Do you offer them a drink or special seat?**

2 SESSION STARTER

☐ OPTION 1: WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Place the small objects you've collected into a bag or box. Form kids into groups of two or three. Encourage one kid from each group to choose two of the objects and show them to the group. Then, challenge the group to work together to come up with a short made-up story that involves these items to share with the class. Encourage groups to try to include a lesson or a message within their story. After a few minutes of brainstorming, invite groups to come to the front and share their stories.

SAY “ Today we will see how Jesus told parables or short stories using everyday items to help people understand important truths. I am looking forward to sharing one of Jesus’ parables with you today as we learn how **JESUS FORGAVE A WOMAN’S SINS**. ”

☐ OPTION 2: TAKE A STEP



Before this activity, create a starting line and a finish line out of painter's tape. Direct kids to line up behind the starting line. Distribute one playing card from a deck of multicolor game cards to each kid and keep the rest of the cards with you to use later. Encourage kids to look and see what color card they have. Then, challenge kids to listen as you flip a card over from the stack and call out the color you chose. If you chose a green card, direct all kids with a green card to take one step forward. Continue until the first kids make it all the way to the finish line.

SAY “ Did [names of kids who won the game] do anything to win other than have the right color card? Today we will be reminded that none of us are good enough to win the battle against sin, but Jesus won the battle and paid the debt for our sin for us! ”



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Today we are going to hear about when Jesus was anointed. Whether this is your first time or your tenth time hearing this story, there is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Read from Luke 7.

•What does this story teach us about God?

Only God has the power to forgive sin. **God is holy and never overlooks sin.** All sin must be paid for, but God provided His Son Jesus to pay the price for sin.

•What did Simon say about the woman who was worshiping Jesus?

Simon was upset that Jesus would allow a sinful woman like her to touch Him. Jesus used this opportunity to teach Simon about the forgiveness of sins by telling a parable about a forgiven debt. Jesus said that the woman loved Him so much because she had been forgiven of so much. Then, Jesus told the woman her sins had been forgiven and to go in peace.

Form groups of two or three and practice retelling the Bible story in your own words. Think of someone you could share the story with this week.

2 MISSIONS MOMENT

Explain that Jonathan studied engineering, and he planned to work in the aerospace field. But he felt God calling him to something different. Within Resonate Church, Jonathan saw what it meant for people to make sacrifices so others could hear about Jesus and trust Him as their Savior. Jonathan realized he wanted to dedicate his life to helping people know Jesus so they could live with Him forever.

Jonathan joined the Resonate Church staff in 2019, and he began training to begin a new church. In 2021, he and his wife, McKayla, moved to Salt Lake City with a team of about 15 young professionals, recent graduates, and current students to start a new church on the campus of the University of Utah. The Moores' primary mission field is the college campus, but they hope to reach more people in the community as the church grows. They have seen God at work as many students have chosen to follow God's plans for their lives.

Starting a new church can be challenging. Pray for the Moores and Resonate Church as they work in a challenging area to teach people about Jesus.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

Everyone owes God a debt for their sin that they cannot repay, but Jesus died and rose again to pay the price so that we can be forgiven if we repent and believe in Him. If you would like to know more about trusting Jesus as Savior, please talk to your parents or one of the leaders. We would love to tell you more.

4 PRAY

Dear God, You are an amazing Creator and King! We praise You for Your mercy, and we ask that You help us trust You. In Jesus' name, amen.

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news—the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.

				
GOD RULES	WE SINNED	GOD PROVIDED	JESUS GIVES	WE RESPOND
Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.	Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.	Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.	Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.	Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

1 THINK ABOUT THE STORY

- **How does Jesus wash away sin?**
- **Why was Jesus able to pay the debt we owe for our sin?**

2 GROUP DISCUSSION

Distribute Bibles. Guide preteens to open their Bibles to Luke 7. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Luke 7:44-47. Remind preteens that after Jesus told the parable of the two men who borrowed money they couldn't repay, Jesus spoke to Simon. Simon was upset that a sinful woman had come to worship Jesus. Jesus pointed out that Simon had not welcomed or cared for Jesus the way this woman had. He explained that the woman had been forgiven much and so she was overflowing with praise and gratefulness to the one who had forgiven her. We should have the same response toward God. We have all sinned, and those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior have been forgiven of all their sins. We have much reason to praise and worship the Lord, thanking Him for all that He has done for us. Choose another volunteer to read aloud Luke 7:44-47 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. Is a person ever too sinful to come to Jesus?

No! Jesus is the powerful Savior who took the punishment for sin through His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead. No sin is too big for Him to forgive, and no person is too far away from Him to save. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 John 1:9.)

2. Have you ever been tempted to look down on other, like Simon did in today's story? How can we guard against that kind of response?

Believers must remember who they were before they trusted Jesus as Savior and realize that they still struggle against sin in their own lives. The Bible says that we are all sinners and have all fallen short, but we can receive mercy and grace from God by trusting Jesus to forgive and save us from our sins. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Romans 3:23.)

3. What are some ways we can show thankfulness and love toward God?

The best way we can show our love and thankfulness to God is to live in a way that pleases and honors Him. If He has saved us, we are His children and we should live in a way that points others to Him. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Colossians 3:17.)

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What is prayer?

Prayer is talking with God to praise Him, ask Him for help, and confess our sins.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

1 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Instruct kids to open their Bibles to Jeremiah 29:12-13. Lead them in reading the key passage aloud together. Before this activity, write out the words of the key passage on inflated balloons. Spread the balloons around the room. Challenge kids to work together to keep the balloons in the air. When you say freeze, everyone must catch a balloon and then put themselves in verse order based on what the word on their balloon is.

2 PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, thanking God that through Jesus our sins can be forgiven.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

SILENT SCENES

Before this activity, write out several scenes from today's story, such as the woman washing Jesus' feet, Simon getting upset, Jesus forgiving the woman, etc. on index cards and place them in a bowl or a bag. Create groups of two or three. Ask one group to come to the front and pick a card out of the bowl. Challenge kids to read the card to themselves and then work together to act out the scene they selected without speaking. Encourage the rest of the kids to shout out what scene the group is acting out. Continue until each group has had the chance to act out one scene.

Remind preteens that we saw how Jesus forgave a woman's sin and were reminded that when we trust Jesus, we are forgiven of all our sins and credited with Jesus' perfect life.