

Closing Prayer

Close with prayer for the spiritual needs of your family, your spiritual family, and people everywhere.



Connection Group Study Guide

For the week of July 7 – July 13

Luke 7:36-50

STRETCH MARKS

WHEN I FEEL GUILT

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS TO...

- Memorize 1 Corinthians 6:11.
- Read II Sam 12:1-13; Ps 32:1-5; Ps 103:10-12; 1 Jn 1:8-9.
- Find a Christian friend to speak to about any sins that are burdening you, (PK will gladly be that that friend!).

Opening Prayer

Introduction

Share a story about a time you acted blindly out of love, anger, ignorance, arrogance, etc.

Into the Bible

Read Luke 7:36-50

In verses 36-39, how is the woman described? Look carefully at what she does. What different emotions does she express? How do you think she feels about herself?

What would motivate this woman to crash a dinner party, bring this expensive gift and weep before Jesus?

How does Simon, the host, react to this uninvited guest? How do you think he feels about himself? How does he feel about Jesus?

Jesus responds to Simon with a parable in verses 40-43. What is the point of the parable?

Why didn't Simon offer Jesus water for His feet, oil for His head, etc? What does this tell us about Simon?

In verse 50 Jesus says the woman's faith has saved her, yet faith was not explicitly mentioned before. How have her actions throughout the story demonstrated faith?

Connecting

Do you have sins in your past or present that feel like they are beyond forgiveness? It may feel too risky to share but at least write them down on a sheet of paper. Pray in pairs, using Psalm 32:1-5 or 1 John 1:8-9 to assure each other of God's forgiveness.

What is your reaction when you think about Jesus' sacrifice to forgive you? Are you moved towards adoration like the woman or are you unaffected like Simon?

Would Jesus describe you as one who "loves much" or "loves little"? If you would like that to change, what will help you to love Jesus more deeply?

Jesus has a pastoral concern for both the humble sinner and the proud sinner and speaks appropriately and graciously to both. How might we do the same as His ambassadors? What conversations, challenges or words of encouragement might He like to speak through you?