

Hidden in Plain Sight

At Jesus' Feet

"The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." -**Deuteronomy 6:4-5**

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'" - **Matthew 22:36-37**

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any person loves the world, the love of God is not in him." - **1 John 2:15**

³⁶ "When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. ³⁸ 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.

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.' ⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, 'Simon, I have something to tell you.' 'Tell me, teacher,' he said.

⁴¹ Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² 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?' ⁴³ Simon replied, 'I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.' 'You have judged correctly,' Jesus said.

⁴⁴ 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. ⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.'

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' ⁴⁹ The other guests began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' ⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'" -**Luke 7:36-50**

This sinning woman and this Pharisee represent two different classes of people.

The Pharisee represents a class of people who are self-righteously satisfied with their own religious performance. The sinning woman represents the maligned.

Who are we in the story? Do we spend our lives breaking our acts of love at Jesus' feet, or are we more like Simon?

How many times do I get up in the morning and before I roll out of bed and hit the floor say, "Lord, today I'm going to look for ways to say I love you."

1. She loved Jesus with _____.

How many times do I get up in the morning, hit the floor and say, "Lord, today I'm going to look for ways to say I love you, and I want to break something at your feet."

2. She loved Jesus with a _____ love.

3. She loved Jesus with an _____ love.

4. She loved Jesus with a sense of _____.

Lovers of Jesus are advocates for Jesus. It was risky. Are you a risk-taker?

Why Would She Have Done All This?

Jesus says, "*Those who have been forgiven much, love much.*" -**Luke 7:47a**

"Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." -**Matthew 11:28-30**

It's high-risk to follow Jesus with our lives in the environment in which we live. So, we tend to play it safe.

"He resists the proud but gives grace to the humble." -**James 4:6**