

Sermon Notes-August 23, 2020
“Announcing the Gospel Today”
Luke 7:36-50

Setting

- Jesus has been invited to the home of a Pharisee
- What happens when you are invited to someone’s home? How are you treated? What customs are followed?
- First-century customs of hospitality are NOT shown to Jesus
- Simon invites Jesus to scrutinize him, not to welcome him
- First-century Jewish dinners were open. The public could observe.
Simon invites Jesus to humiliate him publicly.

Our culture insults, ridicules, and dismisses Christianity. How can we respond to people in our culture?

Where Do We Start?

- People may reject Christianity but they are still searching for meaning. Steve Jobs and “on-off” buttons.
- Woman in the passage knows Jesus is the answer.
 - ◇ She’s an onlooker who reaches out to touch Jesus’ feet.
 - ◇ Simon is shocked!
 - * Touched” (Luke 7:39) is a word for “sexual advancement”
 - * The woman lets down her hair
 - * The woman uses a jar of Alabaster perfume
- Jesus is NOT shocked.
 - ◇ He sees beyond her behaviour into her heart
 - ◇ This is where we begin witnessing in our culture
- How?

Remember that we are no different from the woman or from those we want to reach. We are ALL sinners.
Listen. Listen for the echoes of eternity. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

What Do We Say?

- Jesus’ parable of the two debtors
 - ◇ Would shock Simon that he and the woman are debtors
 - ◇ It doesn’t matter if we think our sins are small or great (a small debt or a large debt), only God can erase the debt.
 - * Sin has one consequence. Romans 6:23
- How?

1 Peter 2:12. We live lives of holiness so people can catch a glimpse of God’s holiness

Who Do We Share?

- Jesus forgives the woman. Only God can forgive. Jesus is God come to us.
- Story of Dorothy Sayers

The Ultimate Response We Can Make

- Worship.
- “My hair ain’t long enough yet to wipe his feet.”