

Reflection Questions: Luke 7:36-50

For the message, "Extravagant Grace" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on November 10, 2019

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: Luke 7:36-50

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,[a] 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."

Let's get started...

- What initially grabbed your attention about this text? What questions or thoughts were prompted in your mind?

QUESTIONS

1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.

- How does this text help me to understand the uniquely good news of Jesus, who he is and what he offers to us? What does Luke the author intend for us to understand about Jesus?
- How does this episode from the life of Jesus help us to understand our personal stories in the light of God's story of salvation found in Christ?

2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.

- What kind of community would religious Pharisees build around them? How does that contrast with the kind of community Jesus builds around him?
- How does this text help us to understand the kind of church we want MHC to be? Are we the kind of community that Jesus would build around him? Where do we need to grow? What do we need to tweak? What do we need to repent of? What do we need to encourage and call one another to?

3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.

- How does this passage help you clarify what is distinctive about the message of Jesus?
- How does this text challenge the thinking of our city when it comes to why Jesus came proclaiming the forgiveness of sins in his name?