

LIFE Group Sermon Questions

The Center of Everything: The Woman

Pastor Josh Parsons

March 1, 2026

Luke 7:36-8:3



THE ORCHARD

Luke 7:36-8:3

One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. 37 And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, 38 and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner!" 40 And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher." 41 "A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." 44 Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." 48 And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" 50 And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

8:1 Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, 2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

Sermon Outline

- I. What love looks like (Luke 7:36-38)
- II. How love grows (Luke 7:39-47)
- III. Who loved first (Luke 7:48-50)

Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn today from the Scripture passage(s) that you didn't know before? What is something that hit you in a fresh way?

2. How would you define love? How does the Bible define love?

3. Why is it important to know the difference between *loving* Jesus and *knowing about* or *doing things for* Jesus? What does that difference matter?

4. Jesus responds to Simon's invitation by having dinner at his house ([Luke 7:36](#)). What does his kindness and openness toward *all* kinds of people—the unrighteous (like the woman) and the self-righteous (like Simon)—mean for us as Christians? What would it look like for you to be more Christ-like toward one or both of those kinds of people? (Think about who you know who fits into those categories!)

5. Pastor Josh asked two pointed questions: 1.) "Would people know that I love Jesus by looking at the way I live my life?" and 2.) "Am I willing to give what is most precious to me for the sake of Christ?" How would you answer those questions? If yes or no, explain *why* yes or no.

6. When has love for Jesus cost you something?

7. Read [Matthew 6:1](#). What's the danger of expressing our love for Jesus visibly? How do we guard against a love for Jesus that's simply for the praise of other people?

8. How do you know when your love is sincere?

9. Jesus gives Simon a parable in [Luke 7:41-42](#) to help him understand what had happened in his house. Simon answered the question Jesus asked correctly, but he was guilty of having no love in his heart. How is it possible for right doctrine but no love to exist in the same person? How have you seen that exist in you?

10. What does it look like practically to "see your sinfulness"? How do we do that without sliding into morbid self-condemnation and an over-tuned sense of guilt?

11. Why is a right view of our sin critical to savoring God's forgiveness in Christ?

12. Why is it important to remember that Jesus loved us first ([1 John 4:19](#))? Why is it important to understand that it isn't our love for him that brings about his forgiveness of us? What might that lead to?

13. How does knowing Jesus loved you before you loved him give you confidence and assurance of your forgiveness?