

TITLE: A Moment of Amazing Grace

THEME: ***Bold worship is the natural response to saving grace!***

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:36-50

36 Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee's house and reclined *at the table*. 37 And there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining *at the table* in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume, 38 and standing behind *Him* at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner." 40 And Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he replied, "Say it, Teacher." 41 "A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly." 44 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 she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet. 46 You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume. 47 For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little." 48 Then He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven." 49 Those who were reclining *at the table* with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this *man* who even forgives sins?" 50 And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

POINTS OF CONSIDERATION

1. Bold, authentic, and unashamed worship of Jesus Christ is the natural response to having received forgiveness of sins.
2. Jesus will not refuse the repentant, who in self-despair prostrate themselves before Him.
3. Those who love Jesus most have no problem washing feet.
4. It's hard to be prideful in heart when you're worshipping with tears of gratitude.
5. You're spiritually strong if washing Jesus' feet is more important to you than other people's opinion of you.
6. Worldly pleasure finds no foothold in the heart of a saint who weeps joyfully at the Savior's feet.

7. Your lowly submission will lead to the assurance of your salvation.
 8. Your full allegiance at His feet prepares you for fruitful ministry in the world.
 9. It's hard to sin when you're singularly-focused on worshipping the Savior.
 10. You will pray most effectively when thinking little of yourself and much of Jesus.
 11. Your present circumstances may not get *easier* once you're saved, but your eternity will be infinitely *better*.
 12. Before you can worship at the feet of Jesus you might first trust Him at the foot of the Cross.
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Discussion Questions

1. Share your personal testimony of how the Lord saved you. Be sure to explain your "unique sinfulness" before Christ, the details of how you got saved, and examples of how your life has changed since you got saved, whether life is now easier or more difficult for you.
2. Discuss a point in your spiritual walk with the Lord where you felt truly "close to the Lord." Discuss what your spiritual life consisted of at that time and why you were walking with the Lord in such a positive way during that season of life.
3. Jesus often spoke in parables, like how He spoke to Simon the Pharisee in this Luke 7:36-50 passage. I've often wondered why Jesus didn't just speak more directly to the unsaved, as in, "Simon, you don't love Me so it shows you are not saved. You need to love Me because I am God's Son." Discuss why (or why not) you think Jesus spoke so often like this to the self-righteous, and whether doing so was an act of judgment, grace, or both.
4. Discuss why Jesus made a point of publicly saying to the woman, "Your sins have been forgiven." He said it so that everyone in the room heard it. Why do you think He did that?
5. What sort of "difficult or challenging ministry" might God be calling you to? Who would He have you serve? Share with each other your concerns, fears, excitement, and prayer requests regarding the potential of this difficult ministry.