

The Freedom of Jesus

Luke 7:36-50

I. Introduction

- A. Read Passage, Pray
- B. Review Christmas Series – gifts of Jesus
- C. Sin – the barrier to any lasting gift from God

II. Walk through the story

- A. Context: Luke 7:29-35
- B. The Dinner Party (7:36-38)
 - 1. The Pharisee
 - 2. The Woman
- C. Simon's Response (7:39-40)
 - 1. Simon's Contempt for Jesus
 - 2. Jesus' challenge to Simon
- D. Jesus's Response
 - 1. The parable (7:41-42)
 - 2. Simon's Answer (7:43)
 - 3. The Contrast between Simon and the woman (7:44-46)
 - 4. Main Point (7:47-50)

III. The Centrality of Forgiveness

- A. The Pharisees' error
 - 1. Modern Evangelism
 - 2. "The Birthmark"
 - 3. Main point: The Pharisees fail to see the depth and power of sin, because they misunderstand its fundamental nature.
- B. The Woman's insight
 - 1. The power of Sin (Ephesians 2:1-3)
 - 2. The magnitude of God's Forgiveness (Ephesians 2:4-7)
 - 3. This is the true gift of Christmas

IV. Implication: God's forgiveness is visibly transformative

- A. Forgiven people worship extravagantly
- B. Forgiven people practice lavish hospitality