

## Luke 7:36-50 -Extravagant Love/Service

1. Consider a time in your life when you have been taken aback by the extravagant love of another; without strings or expectations. What was your response?
2. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/613\\_commandments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/613_commandments) Take a look at this article and consider the expectation of the Pharisees, to be able to keep the law perfectly. As you read this understanding, also consider Paul's understanding of the human condition as detailed in Romans 3:9-20. What are your reflections on the relationship between law keeping, and gospel? As we live the Christian life, how, in our attempts to please God, by living with the 10 commandments in mind, can we avoid the assumptions that the people of the law had about their righteousness?
3. In the story about the two men who owed money, what do you think Jesus was saying to Simon? Why didn't Jesus just accuse Simon of not loving enough? Jesus constantly speaks in parables to make his point, as he has done here. What do you think is his purpose towards Simon?
4. Jesus response to the woman who comes to him is to silently accept her homage. What is it that Jesus sees in this woman, which Simon does not see? How does this affect Jesus actions towards her?

5. If the story Jesus told was to compare and contrast Simon and the sinful woman, and their actions and attitudes towards Jesus, and his statements after Simon's answer show that he was aware of the disrespect that has been shown by Simon, and the extravagant homage that has been shown by the woman, what was Jesus deeper purpose, for Simon?
6. This story is Jesus calling for honest acknowledgment of who and what we are. How much of Simon is in you, as you reflect on your attitudes to those who fall short of what you consider appropriate behaviour? What does this story challenge you in this regard?
7. This story is Jesus calling for honest acknowledgment of who and what we are. What is your response as God reveals to you a recognition of brokenness and sin in your life? What can you learn from the actions of this 'sinful woman'?
8. 'Extravagant grace experienced should lead us to show extravagant love and service to Jesus towards others. We all have a chance to bring the light of Jesus into the lives of those God places in our paths. Jesus concluded with **"Your sins have been forgiven"**, and **"Your faith has saved you, go in peace."** Is there someone in your life who needs to know how much God loves them, and forgives them, and God is calling you to take this message of extravagant love and grace?