

Radical Grace, Extraordinary Love

(Luke 7:36-50)

Our theme for 2024: Radical Hospitality!

- 1. God's radical hospitality to us
- 2. Our radical hospitality to others.









Receiving radical grace elicits a response of love, gratitude, and devotion



"One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he (Jesus) went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table."

- Luke 7:36





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, 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. - Luke 7:37-38



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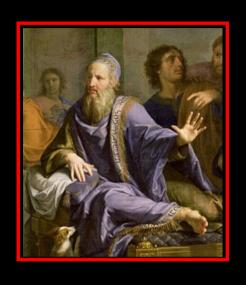


Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner."

— Luke 7:39

"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" And Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." — Luke 7:41-42







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. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.

- Luke 7:44-46



"Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." – Luke 7:47

The logical conclusion that we must draw is that the woman must have had a previous encounter with Jesus — and it was there that Jesus first proclaimed his forgiveness over her.



The Desire for Forgiveness



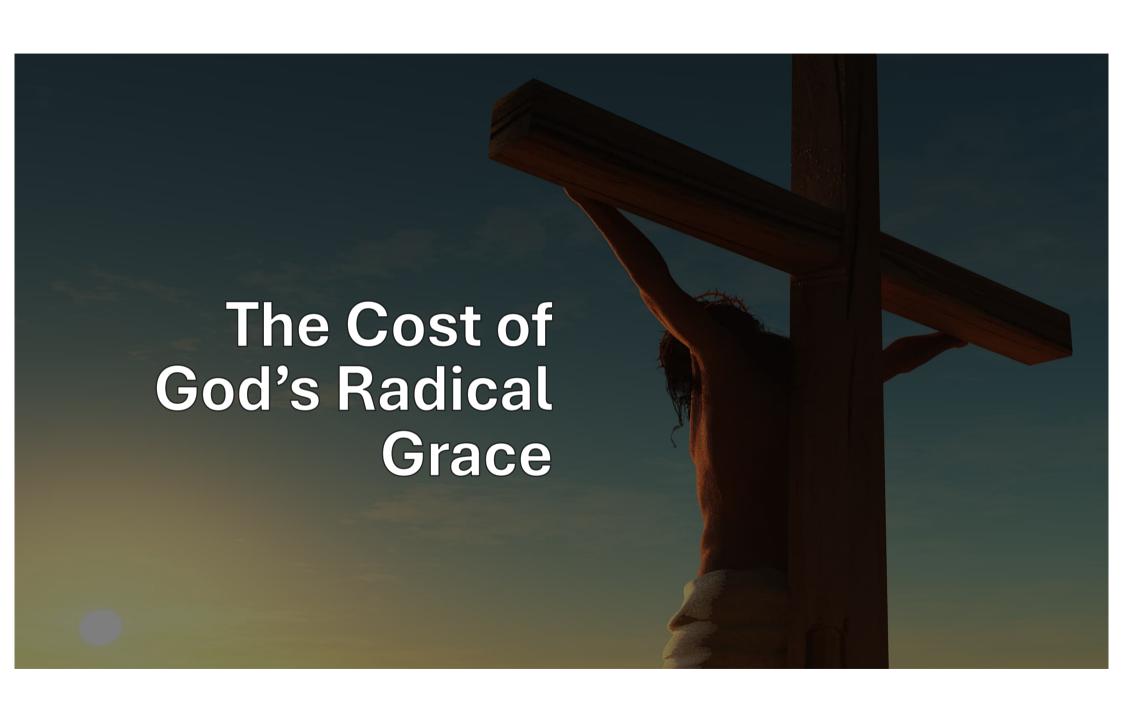


"Therefore I tell you (Simon), her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much..."

- Luke 7:47

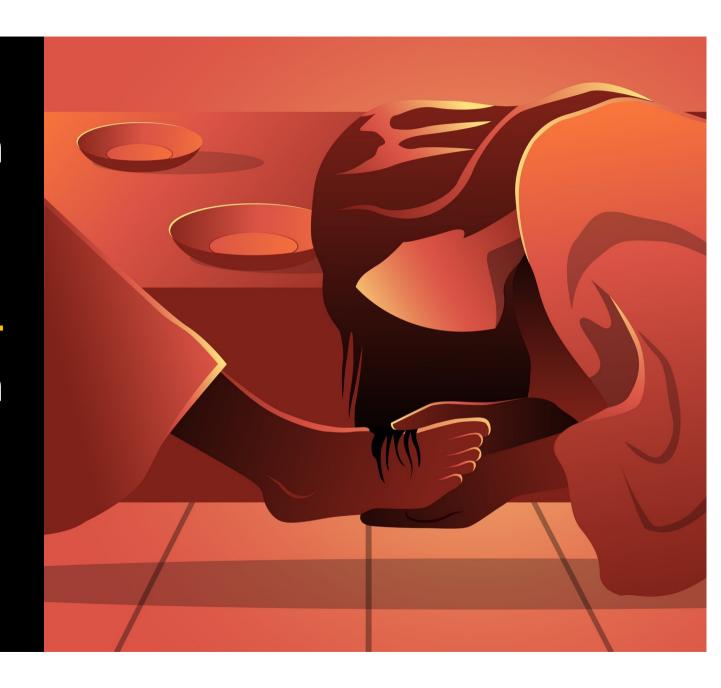




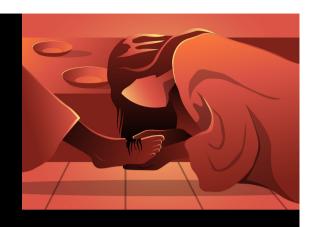


He who has been forgiven much, loves much

He who has been forgiven little, loves little



Growing to love God more...



- 1. Lord, help me to be aware of my sins and to repent of them.
- 2. Lord, help me to be utterly convinced that my every sin even my darkest sins are entirely forgiven by you.
- 3. Lord, help me understand the fullness of the radical grace and love you have shown to me.
- 4. Lord, help me to be willing to do what love demands...