

# More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: C Ordinary 11x2016

Text: Luke 7:36 - 8:3

## *A Sinful Woman Forgiven*

36 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and **took his place** at the table. 37 And a woman in the city, **who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house**, brought an **alabaster jar of ointment**. 38 **She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.**

39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, **"If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is** who is touching him—that she is a sinner." 40 Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak."

41 **"A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?"** 43 Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus 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 bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing 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 were many, have been forgiven; **hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."** 48 Then he said to her, **"Your sins are forgiven."** 49 But those who were at the 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."

## *Some Women Accompany Jesus*

8 Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, **proclaiming and bringing the good news** of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, 2 as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

Eye - I      Math - I/SFX      Body - SFX      People - I

Smarts	Images in the text	Illustrations	SFX
Word -	The woman heard the		

<p>Verbal/Linguistic</p>	<p>news Jesus was at the home (<i>who told her and why?</i>), she received Good news of forgiveness.</p>		
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p>	<p>The architecture and customs of ancient homes - how did this woman gain access?</p>	<p>Roman <a href="#">triclinium</a>          Another <a href="#">image</a>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">1st c. Israelite house</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Another house, about 1/4 down</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">A village house</a></li> </ul> </p>	
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>	<p>Jesus uses parallelism          Like this:  <a href="http://study.com/academy/lesson/what-is-parallel-structure-definition-examples-quiz.html">http://study.com/academy/lesson/what-is-parallel-structure-definition-examples-quiz.html</a>          (see also <b>Word</b>)          This is what makes his statement to Simon powerful. Plus, he drives it home three times, for water, kiss, and oil.          (It might actually be a double chiasmic parallel: <u>500d/50d</u> - <u>you gave me no x</u>/she has given x - therefore she is forgiven and loving/<u>you are not</u>.)</p>	<p><a href="#">Goofus and Gallant</a> (see also <b>People</b>)</p>	<p>Invite the congregation to help create an equivalent parallel illustration. Together make a list of acts of compassion and a list of acts of greed. Then build the example, perhaps something like:</p> <p>You hoard your money, but she gives her money and time to charity. You don't tip well, but she tips 20% and stacks the dishes at the table. You waste your resources, but she reduces, reuses, and recycles.</p> <p>And yet you are considered a leader in Israel and she is considered a sinner.</p> <p>Okay, maybe those aren't quite as powerful, but you get the idea.</p>
<p>Body - Kinesthetic</p>	<p>Footwashing was standard hospitality in ANE, usually performed by the youngest member of the host family or a servant.</p>		<p>While footwashing is a tradition in some churches, many do not practice it. If yours is not used to it, give people a hint of it by letting them wash each other's hands. A few packs of wet wipes give you a relatively easy, relatively cheap way to do</p>

			this.
Musical			My Jesus I Love Thee
Natural		Do you still have the <a href="#">spikenard</a> from a <a href="#">few months ago</a> ?	
People - Interpersonal		<p>The woman’s actions are extremely intimate! And yet we should understand them to be nonsexual. It’s not a line that is always clear. Here’s an <a href="#">article</a>, and here’s <a href="#">another</a> and <a href="#">one more</a>.</p> <p>While risky, it might be a great service to address this directly with your congregation. It will at least get them engaged in the sermon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is conceivable that Simon arranged for the woman to appear at the meal as a test for Jesus. Simon wants to see if Jesus is actually a prophet as rumor has it. Vs. 39 would be read, “if this man WERE a prophet....” If Simon set this encounter up, we might think of him like a Frank Underwood character (<a href="#">House of Cards</a>, maybe season 1), and his line would be delivered to the camera. (see also <a href="#">Eye</a>)</li> </ul>	
Self - Intrapersonal		<p>Simon seems to lack empathy for the woman. There are plenty of reasons, but how do we understand empathy and how do we measure such things in ourselves or others?</p> <p>There is much hardness</p>	<p>Offer your congregation one of these <a href="#">empathy quiz</a> or <a href="#">list of resources and quizzes</a></p>

		<p>of heart in our current social climate. Examining empathy may be a tool to help people reverse the trend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What sort of situations tend to soften your heart and what sort harden it? [What about for Jesus?]</li><li>• Do you try to understand a person's experience before coming to a judgment about them? [What about for Jesus?]</li><li>• How easy is it for you to allow someone to choose another way of handling a situation than what you think you would do? [What about for Jesus?]</li></ul>	
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