

worship matters



South Sub Church

March 8, 2026

A Heart Poured Out

Luke 7:36-50 (NLT) [36-40 listed]

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat.³⁷ When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume.³⁸ Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them.³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!"⁴⁰ Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you."

Sermon Summary:

Worship is not something we watch. Worship is something we bring. In this five-week journey through Scripture, we'll rediscover worship as the overflow of hearts captured by Jesus. We'll rediscover worship as our whole-life response to Jesus - shaped by who He is and what He has done. We'll see worship move from the heart into visible expression: love, repentance, celebration, surrender, and daily obedience.

5 fun, non-threatening Ice Breaker questions:

1. What's the best (or funniest) "awkward dinner party" moment you've ever witnessed—something harmless like a weird seating chart or strange small talk?
2. If you could bring one item to a friend's house to say "thank you" (food, drink, candle, etc.), what would you bring?
3. What's a smell that instantly takes you back to a memory (fresh bread, perfume/cologne, campfire, etc.)?
4. If you could host any "dream dinner" (theme, food, guests—alive or historical), what would it be like?
5. When you're really grateful, how do you naturally show it—words, gifts, acts of service, time, something else?

10 Objective Bible study questions (observation):

1. Where is Jesus when this story begins, and who invited Him? (vv. 36)
2. How does the woman enter the scene, and what detail do we learn about her reputation? (v. 37)
3. List everything the woman does toward Jesus (actions in order). (vv. 37–38)
4. What does Simon think to himself about Jesus and the woman? (v. 39)
5. What does Jesus say to Simon before telling the parable? (v. 40)
6. In the parable, how many debtors are there and what amounts do they owe? (v. 41)

worship matters



7. What happens to both debts in the parable? (v. 42)
8. What question does Jesus ask Simon about the parable, and what is Simon's answer? (v. 42–43)
9. What specific hospitality actions does Jesus say Simon did not do, and what did the woman do instead? (vv. 44–46)
10. How do the other dinner guests respond at the end, and what does Jesus say directly to the woman? (vv. 49–50)

7 Interpretive Questions (meaning):

1. Why might Simon's inner conclusion ("If Jesus were a prophet...") be significant for what he believes about Jesus? (v. 39)
2. What is Jesus revealing about love through the parable of the two debtors? (vv. 41–43, 47)
3. In Jesus' comparison, what do Simon's missing hospitality actions suggest about his posture toward Jesus? (vv. 44–46)
4. What might the woman's extravagant actions communicate about what she believes is true about Jesus?
5. How should we understand Jesus' statement: "She has been forgiven much, so she has shown me much love" (v. 47)? Is love the cause or the evidence of forgiveness?
6. Why do you think Jesus publicly names the woman's forgiveness and contrasts her with Simon in front of everyone? (vv. 44–48)
7. What does "Your faith has saved you; go in peace" tell us about how salvation and peace are received in this passage? (v. 50)

7 Application questions (life response):

1. Which character do you most relate to right now—Simon, the woman, or the other guests—and why?
2. Are there ways you "host Jesus" with correct beliefs but minimal affection (like Simon)? What would it look like to change that?
3. What does "extravagant gratitude" toward Jesus look like in your real life (time, attention, money, obedience, worship)?
4. Is there a place you're tempted to keep someone labeled by their past? How does this story challenge that?
5. When you feel shame, do you move toward Jesus or away from Him? What helps you move toward Him?
6. Who in your life needs a concrete expression of honor, welcome, or forgiveness this week?
7. What is one "next step of faith" you can take that aligns with Jesus' words: "Go in peace"? (v. 50)