

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
04/21/2024

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Examining Our Faith

The Measure of Faith

■ 4/7 – Luke 5:17 – 26

The faith of four friends had to overcome the obstacle of a crowd to get to Jesus to intercede for their friend. Their faith was rewarded, their friend healed and forgiven, and the Pharisees had a testimony

Quarter Preview

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Examining Our Faith

The Measure of Faith

■ 4/14 – Luke 7:1 – 10

The faith of the centurion, humbling himself out of respect for Jewish custom, trusted in Jesus' word to heal his servant without entering his home.

Quarter Preview

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The Measure of Faith

Faith of a Woman Who Loved Jesus

Luke 7:36 – 39; 44 – 50

Background

- There are 3 distinct accounts of Jesus being anointed with an expensive jar of fragrant oil
- The first is found in **Matthew 26:6-13**, and **Mark 14:3-9**. This account took place **2 days** before Passover in the home of Simon the Leper. The woman is unknown, but it is an act of worship in preparation for his burial and that He would leave them soon

Background

- Another account is that of Mary from Bethany, the sister of Martha (**Luke 10:38-42**) and Lazarus, who was raised from the dead (**John 11:1-2; 12:1-8**) at their home **6 days** before Passover
- It was Judas who criticized the act because he stole money

Background

- Today's account is that of another unnamed woman, in the home of another person and audience
- Foot washing was a custom of the day, given the lack of paved roads and sandals for footwear. It was an act of hospitality (**John 13:1-15; 1 Timothy 5:10**)

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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:36 (NKJV)

36 Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat.



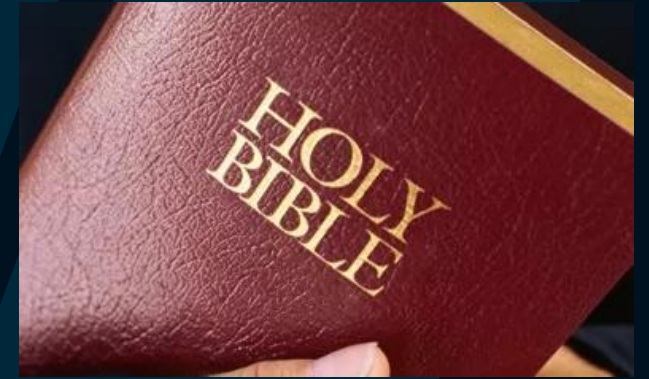
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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil,



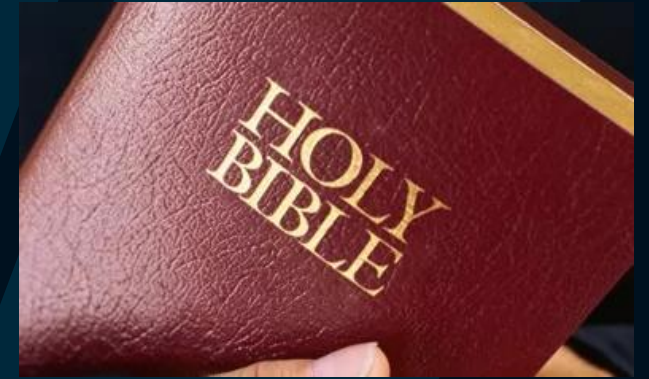
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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:38 (NKJV)

³⁸ and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.



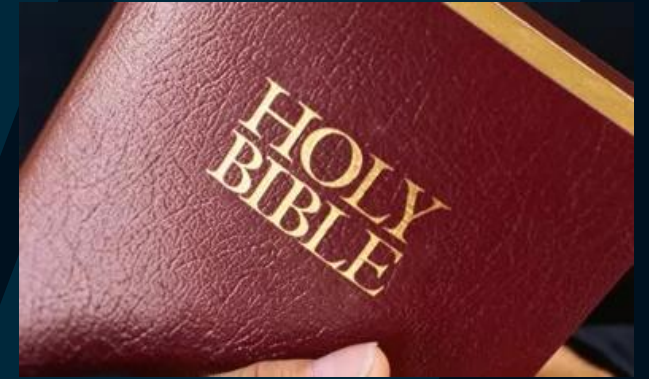
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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:39 (NKJV)

³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."



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Commentary: Faith Overcomes

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- The woman's background – possibly a prostitute
- Despite her background, her faith allowed her to enter the home of those who reviled her. Do we allow our past to stop us from seeking Jesus?

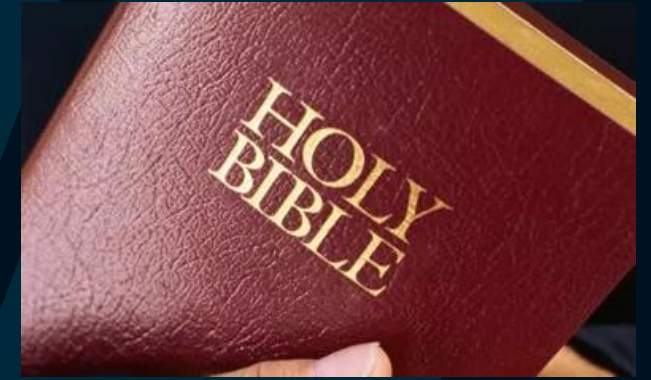
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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:44 (NKJV)

44 Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head."



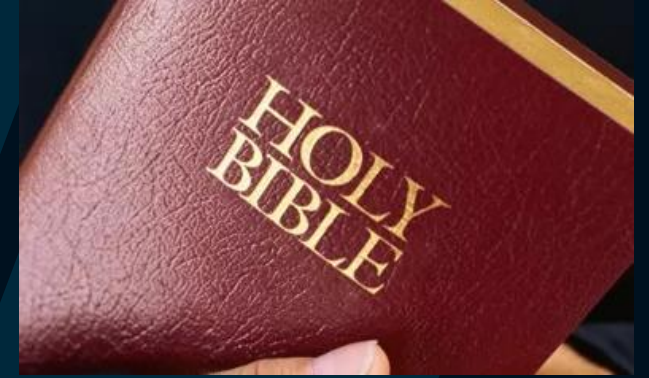
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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:45 – 46 (NKJV)

⁴⁵ You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil.



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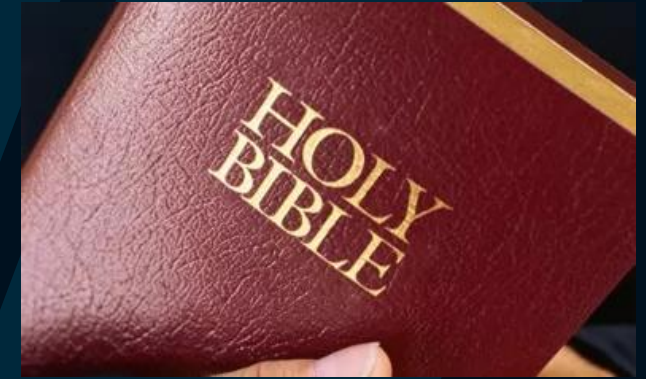
Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:47 – 48 (NKJV)

⁴⁷ Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little."

⁴⁸ Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."



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Commentary: Self Righteousness

- Simon's self righteousness showed in several ways:
- He did not honor Jesus with customary hospitality
- He thought he was better than the sinful woman
- He thought there was little that he needed forgiving of himself

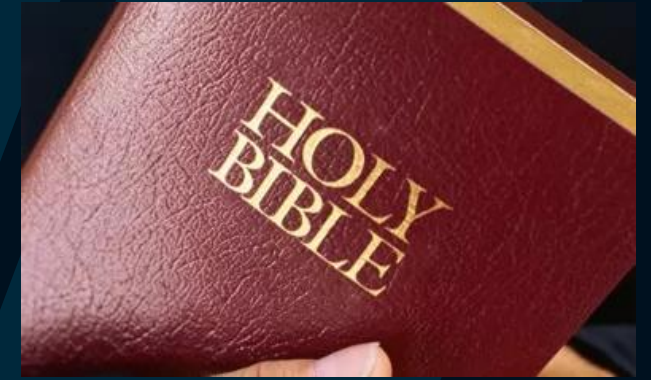
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Lesson Text

A Sinful Woman Forgiveness

LUKE 7:49 – 50 (NKJV)

⁴⁹ And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."



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Commentary: Epilogue

- Jesus had many encounters with other women of ill repute:
 - The Samaritan woman at the well (**John 4:5-30**)
 - The adulteress woman who was brought to be stoned (**John 8:3-11**)
- While Jesus does not condone their behavior, He had compassion and empathy.. Something WE should practice.

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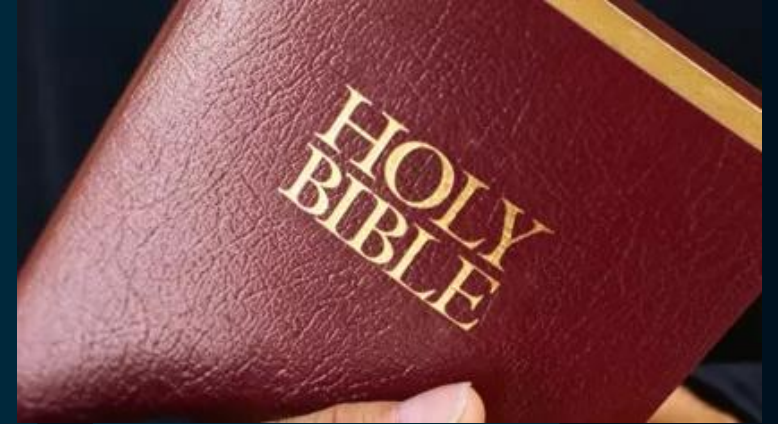
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Commentary: Epilogue

"Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." – **Luke 5:31-32**

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Scripture References



Luke 18:9 – 14
Humility

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Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow & grow
And we must help to make it so
Every member a Christian
Every Christian a worker
Every worker trained
A worker that will not be ashamed
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

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Church School Benediction

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN