

Living Water Fellowship

20TH SUNDAY IN PENTECOST

18TH OCTOBER 2020

COME TO JESUS

WELCOME:

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Faithful God and Father, you draw near to us in our joy and in our grief, in our hope and in our despair. When we are bowed down, you raise us anew. We turn to you now in search of your healing touch. God of compassion and love, move among us this hour. Open our eyes, dispel our fears, and show us the real life you have to offer. Forgive what we have broken or forsaken and restore what is broken or forsaken in us. We trust in you alone...We pray through the Risen Jesus the Christ. Amen

SONG: *Be Unto Your Name*

(On-Line worship – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQvi7AFXv0c>)

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Luke 7:36-50

FAITH CHAT:

1. How does forgiveness re-write a story **IN** your life or the story **OF** your life?
2. How is forgiveness not attached to forgetfulness?

THE MESSAGE: *HIS STORY – YOUR LIFE: HIS FORGIVENESS*

PRAYERS:

(Individuals are encouraged to pray for one another in their households & to include prayers for the wider Living Water family, the Wagga Wagga community, our nation and the world's leaders in this time of isolation due to virus containment)

(Individual households may also choose to celebrate Holy Communion after the online service concludes. Please feel free to do so. If you know the Words of Institution you simply say them as you would hear them in worship. If you aren't sure, then read aloud together Paul's recount of the celebration in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Then share the forgiveness, life and salvation Christ offers in his body and blood. The words "The body of Christ given for you" and "The blood of Christ shed for you" and appropriate elements are to be used as you celebrate together.)

The Communion: *(on-site)*

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship Video during Communion:

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**(Name), † child of God,
In Christ you are forgiven, free & saved.
Go in peace.
Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: *I Am Carried*

(On-Line worship – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCCfd7EnHsA>)

SHOW HIS LOVE

LUKE 7:36-50

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. 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.

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!" Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied.

Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, cancelling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?"

Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn't greet me

with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume.

"I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?" And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Luke 7:36-50. What questions immediately come to mind? Does your familiarity with this part of Jesus' life hinder your seeing it with fresh eyes?
2. What would it mean for Simon to have Jesus eating a meal in his house? How is this different from what we usually see between Jesus & the Pharisees? Explore that!
3. What would motivate this woman to crash a dinner party, bring this expensive gift and weep before Jesus? Why do you think the woman responded to Jesus like this?
4. Compare/contrast Simon & the woman. How do they react differently to Jesus? What does this tell us about them? Why does Jesus tell the parable of the two debtors? What is Christ's message here to Simon & to you?
5. What does Jesus see in the woman that Simon does not? How does this shape Jesus' response to her & to Simon? What here is Jesus' main concern? What is Simon's? What would yours be?
6. In the end, does it matter who is the greater sinner? Why or why not? If being the "greater sinner" DOESN'T matter, what DOES? At what does Jesus demonstrate that he is "greatest"?
7. Why do you think the crowd responded the way they did when Jesus forgave the woman's sin? Why did Jesus say that the woman's sins were forgiven?
8. Many have difficulty trusting that Jesus' love FOR them makes a difference TO them. What barriers might hinder their receiving Jesus' love in a life-transforming way? In what ways could you begin leading others past these barriers to accepting Jesus' love for them?
9. What kinds of things keep people from experiencing God's peace which comes by knowing their sins are forgiven & their salvation is secure?
10. What are some of the reasons why people are not willing to forgive others? Do you struggle to overcome any of these?
11. In light of God's grace in our lives, what would responding to his love & forgiveness look like for you in your daily life?