

Grace in Dark Places

Sermon Based Life Group study for the week of March 19

Getting To Know Each Other

- Have you ever had dinner with a famous person? Who?
- What is one special item that was passed down to you from a parent or grandparent?

Into the Bible

Read Luke 7:36-50

- Why did Simon the Pharisee invite Jesus to dinner? Do you think his motives were good or evil?
 - What spiritual darkness can surround good, religious people? (see Isaiah 64:6)
 - Why did the woman come to Simon's house?
 - What risk was she taking in coming to the house? What does this say about the woman's state of mind?
 - What do you think Jesus felt when the woman wept and anointed his feet?
 - What is your impression of Simon? Why didn't he arrange to do the basic hospitality steps for Jesus? Wash his feet, welcome kiss, anointing his head with oil?
 - Why does Jesus tell the parable? What is he trying to get Simon to see?
 - What does Jesus see in the woman that Simon does not see?
 - Who was the worse sinner? Simon or the woman?
 - How did the woman show saving faith?
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- Application: What dark places in your life have hindered your journey to find Grace?
 - Application: What has been the hardest step of faith you have taken toward Jesus? What did you risk?
 - Application: How are your thoughts about others? If Jesus can hear your thoughts and see your motives, how can you change your thought life? (see Philippians 4:8)
 - Application: Who in your life has played the role of Simon and questioned your value?
 - Application: Who has played the role of Jesus by accepting you and forgiving you.
 - Application: Is Jesus first in your life? Why does giving prove your love? (see Deuteronomy 14:22-23)
 - Application: What are you doing to grow your faith? What times do you set aside to go to him? Are you putting Jesus first in your income?

Prayer

- Ask each group member to share a pray concern or need.
- Pray for each person in the group