

Forgiven Love

Luke 7:36-50

LG Questions for 01.10.10

Getting Started

- 1) **The Problem.** Don Knotts, the actor who played Barney Fife, left the Andy Griffith Show in 1964 for a career on the big screen. It didn't go as well as he hoped because the public wanted him to be Barney Fife in every movie he made. Hollywood calls this type-casting. Unfortunately, it isn't limited to actors. a) When was the last time you labeled someone or they labeled you based on your limited knowledge of each other? What was the result? b) Now read how Jesus handled the problem in **Luke 7:36-50**.

Getting into the Bible

- 2) **The Prostitute.** Read **Luke 7:36-38 and 48-50**. a) What led this woman to visit Simon's home uninvited? Do you think it was difficult for her to do so? b) How do you explain her intense actions and emotions and the way Jesus responded to her?
- 3) **The Pharisee.** Read **Luke 7:39-40 and 44-46** a) Why did Simon and his guests label this woman the way they did? How do you think their religious beliefs influenced the label they gave her? b) Which of the labels that we give people today are probably the most hurtful (examples: overweight, uneducated, divorced, poor, etc.)? c) What steps can you take to help people change their negative labels to positive ones?
- 4) **The Parable.** Read **Luke 7:40-47**. a) Given what Simon had just been thinking, do you think what Jesus said surprised or embarrassed him? Explain. b) How was this parable intended to correct his attitude and help him recognize his need for repentance?

Getting Personal and Practical

- 5) **The Principle.** You may not cry easily, but if you genuinely love Jesus, your affection for Him will show itself in obvious ways. a) Name one obvious way your affection has shown itself recently. b) If, as Jesus said, those who are forgiven much love much, how can you increase your appreciation for His forgiveness and love Him more?