

Not a Fan—Getting Intimate
Study Questions
Luke 7:36-50

Warm-up

1) Think of someone you are very close to, like a spouse or sibling—what is something you were recently surprised to learn about them?

A little deeper

2) [Luke 7:36-39] Simon the Pharisee invited Jesus to his house for dinner, but he apparently didn't follow the customs for having an honored guest in the house. For starters, nobody washed Jesus feet. Instead, a "known sinner" came in, began weeping, and washed His feet with her tears and her hair. A woman generally only let down her hair in front of her husband. **Knowing the effect Jesus had on people who recognized their own sin, what do you think was going on between the woman and Jesus?**
How do you think this might have scene looked to Simon the Pharisee?

3) [Luke 7:40-43] Jesus told a parable of a moneylender who forgave the debt of two people—one who owed about \$30,000 and another who owed \$3000. **How would a modern person feel if someone forgave their debt of either amount?**
Simon the Pharisee answered with wording like "I suppose," as if he were saying "I've never been in such a predicament, but if I had to guess..." **What does Simon's answer reveal about him?**

4) [Luke 7:44-50] Jesus described all the things the woman had done for Him but that Simon (his host) had not, then He told the woman her sins had been forgiven. **The point Jesus is making here is that the love someone responds to Jesus with corresponds to the forgiveness they recognize they've been given—when do you think the woman's forgiveness actually happened?**

For whose benefit does Jesus say, "Your sins are forgiven"?

Bringing it home

5) How have you responded when you've accepted forgiveness from Jesus?

How consistent has your response been—is it different at different times?

6) Have you had a "Simon moment" in your life recently, when you have avoided being intimate with God? If so, what was getting in the way of completely opening up to Him—what were you still holding on to for yourself?

7) Deep vulnerability can be hard to do in a larger group setting. One way of allowing yourself to get closer to God is to allow yourself to get vulnerable with one or two other people in times set aside for prayer. **How might you set up some time in prayer with people you could become comfortable diving deeper in prayer than you're used to? It may help to consider what you are having trouble opening up about, and who you might be willing to talk with about it.**