



LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Forgives So Much!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7

WORD OF WONDER: From Matthew 11:28

Have you ever had to forgive someone, but you didn't really want to? Or maybe you were told to forgive someone and said, "I forgive you," but deep down you didn't really mean it?

Forgiving others can be hard sometimes, especially when they have hurt us. Jesus doesn't merely tell us to forgive others; He embodies the very idea of true forgiveness. He is our living example.

Read Luke 7:36–50. In this passage, Jesus publicly forgives a woman whom the Pharisees least expected Him to forgive. In their eyes this woman was one of the worst women to be associated with. Yet Jesus forgave this woman's sins generously. This woman knew that though her sins were many, Jesus offered forgiveness. This led her to want to serve Jesus sacrificially, her sacrifice in turn demonstrating her deep love for Him.

What would it be like to forgive someone in your life generously? It isn't easy, but as we receive God's generous love and forgiveness, we too become able to forgive others.

Take a moment to rest in God's generous love and forgiveness for you. Receive it, thank Him for it, and ask Him to help you extend it to others. What a generous, loving gift from our Savior!

—**Ana Dutton**

Children's Ministry

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LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

JESUS IS ANOINTED

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Simon the Pharisee was an influential Jew who promoted certain purity laws and traditions. The sinful woman may have been a prostitute, given her apparent reputation.

WHAT?

While Jesus ate dinner at the house of Simon the Pharisee, a sinful woman washed Jesus' feet with her tears, kissed them, and poured perfume on them. The woman's acts demonstrated her gratitude and love for Jesus, the generous forgiver of her many sins.

WHERE?

Though the town in this story is unnamed, Jesus had been traveling around the region of Galilee. Luke 7 starts in Capernaum, on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee. In verse 11, Jesus goes to Nain, which was nine miles southeast of Nazareth.

WHEN?

This story takes place relatively early in Jesus' ministry, as He had just chosen the 12 disciples in the previous chapter. Even so, Jesus had done enough at this point that news about Him was spreading far (see Luke 7:17).

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

This story highlights Jesus' willingness to forgive sinful people. It points ahead to the cross, where Jesus made the way for the complete removal of sin. Jesus' love is transformative, compelling His followers to love greatly because they've been forgiven much.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Play Stations

SUPPLIES: bin, pom-poms, small cups

Greet the kids warmly.

Welcome! I'm happy you're here! Let's have fun together learning about Jesus!

Direct kids to the bin of pom-poms and show them the cups. Sit with kids as they practice scooping up pom-poms. Can they fill the cups? During this time of free play, you could also ask kids to pour pompoms over your feet (leave your socks on).

Today we'll hear about a woman who poured something on Jesus' feet ... but it wasn't pom-poms!



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LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to live. And thank You that He died on the cross so our sins can be forgiven. Jesus forgives so much—and we're thankful for that! Through Your Holy Spirit, let us learn more about You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? The Bible

Ask: Why is the Bible special? Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.

Tell the Bible Story

Read Luke 7:36-50 or use the script below:

Our God's big story today is a great story from the Bible about a time when Jesus had dinner at someone's home and taught something very important. Let's find out from the Bible what Jesus said!

One day, Jesus went to Simon's home for dinner. When Jesus got to Simon's house, Jesus sat down to eat. While Jesus was eating, a woman came into the room. She was someone who had done many wrong things. The woman was carrying a jar of perfume. The woman went to Jesus and poured out the perfume on His feet. She cried and wiped Jesus' feet with her tears and her hair.

Simon wasn't happy about it because the woman sinned a lot—that means she did a lot of wrong things. Jesus said that He forgave the woman for the wrong things she had done! He didn't just forgive a little. He forgave a lot! Jesus told Simon that the woman wasn't wrong to pour perfume on Jesus' feet. He said that Simon hadn't even given Jesus water to wash His dusty feet. So the woman showed more love to Jesus than Simon did! Jesus forgave the woman for the many wrong things she had done. When she left she was very happy.

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

Come to me, all who are tired. I will give you rest.

— Matthew 11:28