

WEEK OF MAY 17, 2026

**5-Day Devotional  
based on Sunday's message:**



*Forgiven Much, Loves Much*  
*Luke 7:36-50*

Provided by



**AKRONGRACE**

**AKRON GRACE CHURCH**  
101 N. 7th Street, Akron PA  
[www.akrongrace.com](http://www.akrongrace.com)

**Listen to the full message on our YouTube channel:**  
[www.youtube.com/@akrongracechurch6363](http://www.youtube.com/@akrongracechurch6363)

## 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, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled 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."

# Day 1: When Grace Breaks Through

## Devotional

Have you ever wondered why some people seem to fall in love with Jesus immediately while others keep their distance? In Luke 7, we see this contrast beautifully illustrated through two very different people at the same dinner table. A woman with a broken past enters uninvited, while Simon the Pharisee hosts with religious propriety. Yet it's the broken woman who recognizes what she truly needs, which is mercy. Her tears aren't for show. They flow from a heart that finally understands grace. Simon, meanwhile, remains distant, more concerned with appearances than with his own spiritual condition. The difference isn't in their sin count because both needed forgiveness. The difference is in their awareness of that need. When we truly see ourselves as we are before a holy God, grace becomes not just a nice concept, but a lifeline we desperately grab hold of.

## Bible Verse

'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.' - Luke 7:36-38

## Reflection Question

What barriers might be keeping you from approaching Jesus with the same desperate gratitude as this woman?

## Quote

People who know they need mercy often move toward Jesus differently than people who believe they're already fine.

## Prayer

Lord, help me see my true need for Your mercy. Break through any pride or self-sufficiency that keeps me from experiencing the fullness of Your grace. Amen.

## Day 2: The Language of Tears

### Devotional

Sometimes our deepest worship happens without words. The woman in Luke 7 never speaks a single sentence, yet her actions communicate volumes about her heart. Her tears aren't theatrical, but the overflow of a soul that has encountered forgiveness. She forgets about the room full of judgmental eyes, forgets about protecting her reputation, forgets about everything except Jesus. In that moment, nothing else matters but expressing her gratitude to the One who has set her free. Her expensive perfume, worth a year's wages, becomes a small offering compared to what she's received. This is what happens when grace truly captures our hearts. We stop calculating the cost of our worship and start celebrating the gift of our salvation. Our gratitude becomes so overwhelming that we can't help but express it, regardless of who's watching or what they might think.

### Bible Verse

'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.'" - Luke 7:37-38

### Reflection Question

When was the last time your gratitude for God's forgiveness moved you to extravagant worship, regardless of what others might think?

### Quote

The woman never says a single word. Her actions speak loudly enough for her. I want you to think humility. I want you to think gratitude. I want you to think repentance is going through her mind and her spirit at this moment.

### Prayer

Father, let my worship flow from a heart that truly remembers how much I've been forgiven. Help me express my gratitude without fear of judgment. Amen.

## Day 3: The Danger of Familiar Grace

### Devotional

There's a subtle danger that creeps into the hearts of those who have known God's grace for a long time. We can become so familiar with forgiveness that we're no longer amazed by it. Like Simon the Pharisee, we might know all the right religious language, understand the theology of grace, and even teach others about God's mercy, yet somehow lose the wonder of what we've actually been saved from. This familiarity can make us judgmental toward others who are just discovering grace, as if we've somehow graduated beyond needing mercy ourselves. But the truth is, we're all debtors who could never repay what we owe. The ground at the foot of the cross is level, no one stands higher or lower than anyone else. When we remember this, our hearts stay tender, our worship stays fresh, and our love for others grows deeper.

### Bible Verse

'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, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled 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." - Luke 7:41-44

### Reflection Question

In what ways might you have become too familiar with God's grace? How can you recapture the wonder of your salvation?

### Quote

Over time, it's possible to become so familiar with grace that we're no longer amazed by it.

### Prayer

Lord, don't let me take Your grace for granted. Keep my heart amazed by Your mercy and humble before Your love. Amen.

# Day 4: Seeing People Through Jesus' Eyes

## Devotional

Simon saw a category, 'sinner.' Jesus saw a person, someone grace could restore. This difference in perspective reveals everything about the condition of our hearts. When we're secure in God's love for us, we stop seeing people as threats to our reputation and start seeing them as candidates for grace. Simon was skilled at identifying sin in others while remaining blind to the pride and coldness in his own heart. However, Jesus sees beyond the surface, beyond the reputation, beyond the mistakes. He sees the faith that drives a woman to risk everything just to worship at His feet. When we truly understand that we've been forgiven much, we begin to love much, not just God, but the people around us who desperately need the same grace we've received. Our perspective shifts from judgment to compassion, from condemnation to restoration.

## Bible Verse

'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."' - Luke 7:44-47

## Reflection Question

How might your perspective toward difficult people change if you truly saw them through Jesus' eyes of grace and restoration?

## Quote

Simon sees a category. Jesus sees a person. Simon sees contamination. Jesus sees someone grace can restore.

## Prayer

Jesus, help me see people the way You see them - not as categories or problems, but as precious souls in need of grace. Amen.

## Day 5: Go in Peace

### Devotional

The most beautiful words Jesus speaks to the woman aren't about her past, but about her future. 'Go in peace.' Not in shame, not in condemnation, not in exile, but in peace with God. This is the ultimate destination of grace, not just forgiveness of our past, but freedom for our future. When grace truly captures our hearts, it changes everything. It changes what we love, what we value, and what we do with our lives. The woman came in brokenness but left in wholeness. She came carrying shame but left carrying peace. This is what the gospel does. It transforms debtors into daughters and sons, outcasts into family members, the broken into the beautifully restored. Grace doesn't just cover our sin, but changes our story. It gives us a new identity, a new purpose, and a new peace that passes understanding. This peace becomes the foundation for how we live, love, and serve others.

### Bible Verse

'hen Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." - Luke 7:48

'Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'" - Luke 7:50

### Reflection Question

How has experiencing God's peace changed the way you approach your daily life and relationships with others?

### Quote

Grace changes what we love, grace changes what we value. And grace changes what we do with our lives.

### Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for not just forgiving my past but giving me peace for my future. Help me live from this place of grace and share it with others. Amen.