

This is Us: A Hospital
Luke 7:36-50

THE PLOT: Two kinds of people are contrasted as Jesus teaches in a home.
(Luke 7:36-38)

A Pharisee, named Simon _____ invites Jesus to his home.

A woman, known as a sinner, _____ initiates loving actions toward Jesus.

THE PROBLEM: Tension is created in the heart of Simon.
(Luke 7:39-40)

An _____ view of God surfaces that some people are acceptable and others are not.

Ironically, Jesus knows both the _____ of the woman and the _____ thoughts of Simon.

THE PARABLE: Jesus tells a story to create a greater tension.
(Luke 7:41-50)

Passionately loving God is a _____ to His great love for us.

Self-righteousness ultimately leads to having a problem with _____.

God's _____ is the defining reality in life.

My Next Steps:

1. Define your life by God's grace.
2. Pray with someone about your need for His grace.
3. Join a Mending the Soul group or another group that will help you wrestle with your need for His grace.

Questions for Discussion and Further Reflection

1. The parables of Jesus were not meant to teach. They were meant to shatter our illusions and create tension. Why is this so?
2. Why is our personal sense of independence and control really an illusion?
3. Why does embracing our woundedness, not focusing on our "right actions," lead us to love?
4. Why are the two ways of comparing ourselves to others (self-righteousness, self-loathing) really a trap?
5. Why is love a *response* to God's grace and not the other way around?
6. Are you ready to embrace your own brokenness?



"If you're a stranger to your own wound, then you're gonna be tempted to despise the wounded."

Father Gregory Boyle



"And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"



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"But when he heard it, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.'"



Matthew 9:10-13

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Passionately loving God is a response to His great love for us.

Self-righteousness ultimately leads to having a problem with Jesus.

"Humility is a bag into which Christ puts the riches of His grace. The one infallible test of our holiness will be the humility before God and man which marks us. Humility is the bloom and the beauty of holiness. The chief mark of counterfeit holiness is its lack of humility."

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Andrew Murray

"Because we never lay hold of our nothingness before God, we never enter into the deepest reality of our relationship with Him. But when we accept ownership over our powerlessness and helplessness, when we acknowledge that we are paupers at the door of God's mercy, then God can make something beautiful out of us."

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Brennan Manning

My Next Steps ...

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"To live by grace means to acknowledge my whole life story, the light side and the dark. In admitting my shadow side I learn who I am and what God's grace means."

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