

MD KIDS CURRICULUM: LUKE

Week 9: Anointed By Sinful Woman (from Luke 7:36-50)

To the Teacher:

This week we see how Jesus spent time with and cared for a woman who was likely abused, rejected, and shunned from her society. We do not know the specifics of her work, but it was likely not the type of work we often speak to children about. Yet, she was a human made in the image of our Creator and loved by Jesus. Though she was rejected by her community, taken advantage of, and known for her sin, Jesus accepted her and she was grateful for it. Pray that the kids, and yourself, will come to Jesus in the same acknowledgement of your need, and gratitude for his grace.

- **Big Idea:** The weight of sin: sin is a burden or weight too heavy for us to carry on our own. Jesus came to carry that weight for us.
- **Question:** What is the heaviest thing you have tried to carry?
- **Starter:**
Here is a cartoon video explaining the story of today's text: https://youtu.be/II_v3KTtgDw
OR
Bring two objects for students to hold - one heavy (perhaps a thick book) and one fairly light (maybe a thin paperback). Ask for two volunteers, "You have to be strong enough to hold these during the entire story." Give one the heavy weight and the other the lighter. You can also have them hold them out at arms length if you need to make it heavier.
- **Story:** from Luke 7:36-50
[READ]
Jesus was once invited to an important man's home for a meal. Jesus had walked a long way. He was tired and his feet were dusty because they only had sandals to wear back then and they walked everywhere. Back in those days, when someone special came to dinner, the host had a servant wash the guest's feet. Then, the host would anoint the head of his guest with sweet-smelling oil. But when Jesus arrived, the important man did not have Jesus' feet washed, and he did not pour sweet-smelling oil on Jesus' head. After they sat down to eat, a woman came in with a jar of expensive perfume. She fell at his feet and began to cry. Her tears fell on Jesus' feet and she began to wipe his feet with her hair to clean them off. She then kissed his feet and poured the sweet perfume on them.

The important man was shocked! This woman was not someone he wanted to have in his house. She had done many bad and shameful things. He thought to himself: This Jesus is not a great prophet like everyone says. If he were, he would know how bad this woman is, and he wouldn't let her touch his feet. Jesus knew what the man was thinking, and he told a story that went something like this:

"There were two people who were carrying heavy burdens. One carried a burden weighing a hundred pounds, the other carried a burden weighing ten pounds. They could only let go of their burdens if someone else offered to take them. Both of the people were so tired. The one with the heavier weight didn't know if he/she could make it any longer. Suddenly someone offered to take their burdens!

[Take the weights from the volunteers and let them join the rest of the kids.]

Who do you suppose was more thankful: the one carrying the lighter weight or the one with the heavier weight?"

[Let kids respond.]

The woman who washed Jesus' feet was carrying a heavy weight of sin. She knew she had sinned a lot; she knew what other people thought about her. But she also knew that Jesus loved her and forgave her and took that weight of sin away. And the woman wanted to show Jesus how happy she was. The important man didn't think he had many sins. He thought he was much better than the woman. But he was wrong. All of us have sinned, and none of us is better than anybody else. Jesus forgives us all. And we should all be as thankful as that woman who washed Jesus' feet.

[Reflection Questions]

1. Why do you think the woman was crying when she came to see Jesus?
2. Has Jesus only forgiven the woman's sins?
3. Do only the people that have sinned a lot need Jesus' forgiveness?
4. Can Jesus forgive your sins? How does that make you feel?

Prayer:

God, thank You that You forgive all sins through Jesus. Even if we think we are good kids, help us to see that we still sin and still need you! If we sin a lot, thank you that you don't turn us away or shame us. You welcome us with all of our mess, love us, and tell us to go and love others like you love us. Help us to do that! Amen.

- **Craft:** You can use the coloring page attached
- **BLESS Activity:**
For kids to do during the week
Jesus accepted this woman at the table, around a meal. Who can you and your family **eat** with this week and share the love of Jesus with as you share a meal?

THE SINFUL WOMAN

Luke 7:36-50



The sinful woman poured perfume on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair