

The heart of God is drawn to the broken hearted.

Read each of the following passages.

Isaiah 57:15. Describe the contrast between the two types of places God dwells.

Isaiah 66:2. What kind of person draws the attention of God? What kind of person usually draws your attention?

Psalms 34:18. When have you most sensed the nearness of God? What were the circumstances in your life at that time? Was it a time of brokenness and repentance of sin?

Psalms 51:17. What type of sacrifices do you usually think of bringing to God? Describe the type of sacrifice God wants from us.

The woman in Luke 7:36-50 had a reputation as a sinner.

- How do you think she got that label? Who do you think gave her that label?
- What labels do a proud, unbroken people give sinners?
- What labels do a proud, unbroken people give themselves?
- What labels do a humble, broken people give themselves?
- How can years of religious exercise deceive you into thinking you don't need brokenness, repentance, and forgiveness as much as "sinners"? Has this happened to you?
- What label does God give those who sin but refuse to be broken?
- What label does a broken, humble sinner give himself/herself?

Consider how each action of the sinner woman reflected what was going on in her heart.

- **Brokenness** – Her desperation brought her out of the city to seek the place where Jesus was. What had she been seeking?
- **Repentance** – She knelt to take the place of a maidservant. What is the relationship between repentance and service?
- **Forgiveness** – She washed his feet with her tears. What did he wash her heart with?
- **Freedom** – She was unaffected by the rejection of others. Are you free to worship and obey without the fear of what others will think of you?
- **Love** – In grateful adoration, she kissed the feet of Jesus. Describe how your grateful adoration has led you to obey God in a way that doesn't make sense?
- **Worship** – She broke the flask of costly ointment and poured it all out on Jesus' feet. Has your worship of Jesus ever cost you anything? What?

Jesus uses a parable about debt forgiveness to teach us the relationship between the forgiveness and love. Everyone needs forgiveness. In the parable, would you be the guy who was forgiven \$10,000 or \$100,000? Discuss the following statements and how they relate to your service, love, and giving...

1. **You will not serve much without awareness that you have been set free from much.**
2. **You will not love much without awareness that you have been forgiven much.**

3. You will not give much without awareness that you have been given much.

Additional Scripture

- John 12:1-7
- 1Tim. 1:14
- 1John 1:7-9