

Forgiven Much
June 12, 2016

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

LOOK

Every culture has particular norms for hospitality. The roles of host and guests are usually well understood.

1. What are some of the norms for the parties you give and/or attend?
2. What are the customs of hospitality at our church services?
3. When have you experienced an uncomfortable or awkward moment at a party or at church?

BOOK *Luke 7:36-50*

In this socially awkward but spiritually relevant encounter, an uninvited guest treats Jesus with more respect than the host treats him.

1. Put yourself into this encounter with Jesus as the Pharisee host. Why did you invite Jesus to your home? How did you treat him? What did you miss out on and why?
2. Put yourself into this encounter as the sinful woman. Why did you come to the party uninvited? Why did you feel the need to bathe and kiss Jesus' feet and anoint his head? How were you changed?
3. Discuss the meaning of the parable of the debtors. Can either pay their debt?

TOOK

At The Point this Sunday, Tom Meyers of Mtn. View CSA, said that although we are accustomed to living with diversity of race, sexual orientation, and religion, our community is now far more segregated by socioeconomic status than in the 70's and 80's. Our newly forming "In My Backyard" ministry is exploring ways we may be able to bring awareness of and aid to our neighbors in need.

1. How do forgiveness and reconciliation enter a conversation about our role as Christians in a community that allows its members to suffer homelessness and poverty?
2. God's forgiveness is life changing. Who in your life needs to hear about it this week?