
AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

I. Our Response to God

- a. Our response to God's gifts shows the condition of our heart.
- b. What is easier for you to name: five blessings from God or five things that are going wrong?
- c. Gratitude is like a GPS for your soul as it points you in the right direction.

II. The Woman's Response

a. Luke 7:36–38 NET 2nd ed.

- i. *³⁶ Now one of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. ³⁷ Then when a woman of that town, who was a sinner, learned that Jesus was dining at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfumed oil. ³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. She wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and anointed them with the perfumed oil.*
- b. The woman was likely someone with a known bad reputation around town. She probably wasn't an invited dinner guest, but the door was left open for anyone to enter.
- c. The oil she brought to Simon's house was expensive and extravagant.
- d. Her behavior shocked the guests, and especially the host.
- e. Her response was spurred by deep gratitude for what Jesus had done for her.
 - i. Do we show this same kind of emotion or merely speak of it?
 - ii. James 2:18 (NET 2nd ed.) "*Show me your faith without works and I will show you faith by my works.*"
- f. Gratitude is fuel for the Christian life.

III. Simon's Response

a. Luke 7:39–43 NET 2nd ed.

- i. *³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ So Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." He replied, "Say it, Teacher." ⁴¹ "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed him 500 silver coins, and the other fifty.⁴² When they could not pay, he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one who had the*

bigger debt canceled.” Jesus said to him, “You have judged rightly.”

- b. Simon remained a sinful man, but the sinful woman became the redeemed and forgiven woman.

IV. Our Response

- a. Gratitude begins with remembering what God has done.
 - i. **Psalm 51:12 (NET 2nd ed.)**
 - 1. ¹² *Let me again experience the joy of your deliverance.*
 - ii. Gratitude flows from a heart that remembers all that God has done.
- b. Gratitude is action.
 - i. Simon was full of words, but not action. The woman said nothing but spoke volumes by what she did.
 - ii. Our gratitude is on display as we worship, service, and give to God.
- c. Our attitude is a choice. No one can steal our gratitude from us.
 - i. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)**
 - 1. ¹⁶ *Rejoice always,* ¹⁷ *pray continually,* ¹⁸ *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.*
- d. **Psalm 100 (NIV)**
 - i. ¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. ² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.
- e. Know who God is. Know what God has done. Respond Accordingly. Expect God’s grace to continue.