

Luke 7:37-38

And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.

Imagine the following scenario. You are driving to work, and you see a car accident happening right before your eyes. So you pull over and help out those involved, and the police show up and ask you what you saw happen. So you reply with:

“Well, I got up this morning and didn’t want to get out of bed because I had trouble sleeping last night. But I finally rolled out of bed and started the coffee pot going, before I jumped in the shower. Then after my shower I poured a cup of coffee, and the dog wanted to go out, so I had to let the dog out and....”

I know that sounds crazy, yet how many people do that when they are being a witness for Jesus, spending so much time telling about themselves and what they used to be. When you spend more time talking about yourself, you are actually being a witness of what you used to be, and not a witness of what Jesus has done in your life.

Take today’s verse for example. Mary was a prostitute, but did you ever notice that Mary never spoke out telling everyone that she used to be a prostitute and how bad she had lived her life up until this point? No, she put all the focus and gratitude on Jesus who had forgiven her for her sins. Jesus had not even died yet, but still she knew that Jesus was her Savior. That’s why she ***“stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.”***

She wasn’t doing it to make a show out of it or to be recognized for what she was doing, but rather, once again, for people to know about her awesome Savior, and how much He loved her and forgave her.

Yet so many people want to post on social media all the great things they have done... all in the name of Christianity of course. Yet all the focus is on what they have done, with pictures of themselves to back it up, and they will throw in the name of Jesus to make it sound more spiritual. But as today’s story goes on it says that:

† **Luke 7:39** *Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."*

The Pharisee was more focused on what a sinner Mary was instead of what a Savior Jesus was. But Mary did not have to defend her actions, all she needed to do was continue doing what she was doing, and that was worshipping Jesus, her Savior. But the enemy will put distractions in our way when we are a witness for Jesus, and sometimes it will be a close friend or relative who is not a believer.

The Pharisee had the perfect example of forgiveness, love, grace and mercy happening right before his eyes, yet he didn't care about that because he cared more about image instead of forgiveness. ***“would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner”***

We too need to be cautious with those believers who purposely hang out with nonbelievers, because you have no idea why they are. True some do hang with them to partake of their sin. But then some do because that want to be a witness for Jesus, and they are not like the Pharisee judging them, but are more like Jesus, loving on them, and as they do, they are not telling the nonbelievers how bad of a person they used to be, but rather how great a Savior Jesus is!!!

- † ***Psalm 34:2 My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.***
- † ***2 Corinthians 10:17 (NLT2) As the Scriptures say, “If you want to boast, boast only about the LORD.”***
- † ***Galatians 6:14 (NLT2) As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died.***