

Day 41

The Best Moment in Life

Luke 7:36-50

Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven. Luke 7:47

I think the worst moment in life is realizing that you've sinned in a major way—that gut-wrenching feeling that you've messed up so badly that you can't fix it.

I think the best moment in life is being forgiven, especially of your worst sins. Sometimes we try to make up for our sin, but the harm can't be undone. Unable to fix the hurt, we can't balance the ledger—get enough “good credits” to outweigh the bad we've done.

In Luke 7, we see a woman whose life is a train wreck. Her sins are so well-known that folks in town figure there is no way for her to rebalance those scales. She knows there is nothing she can do to make things right.

Simon was repulsed to have such a scandalous woman barge into his home uninvited. To his horror, Jesus allowed this unclean one to wash Jesus' feet with tears, dry and kiss them, and anoint them with perfume.

In the story about two men who owed money to a money lender, Jesus wanted Simon to understand that those who are forgiven much love God much. This woman's act of worship was not to make up for past sins. She was demonstrating her gratitude for forgiveness she had already received from Christ. Jesus affirmed this good news to her in the presence of their perturbed host: “Your sins are forgiven.”

Blind to his own sin, Simon struggled to understand. But the woman who recognized her sinfulness experienced the best moment of life. That wonderful moment is for us, too, as we receive our Lord's undeserved message: “Your sins are forgiven.”

Holy Jesus, I can't undo my many sins. Yet you paid for these with your blood. Open my heart to receive your great gift of forgiveness. I worship you together with the Father and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Adapted from Forgiven to Forgive - 6 Weeks of Daily Devotions
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Write or type your answers. Writing your answers helps you to meditate more deeply on the question, organize your thoughts, and provide a visible way for you to review and reflect on how this devotion applies to your specific situation.

1. Which experience from your past keeps robbing you of Christ's forgiveness?
2. What effect does that have upon you when you are in conflict with someone?
3. Read 1 John 1:7. What about the blood of Jesus are you unable to trust?
4. What comfort do you receive from this verse?