

Meals with Jesus



A journey through
Luke's Gospel

Lesson 2

Supper at Simon's

faith **in** kids



9
lessons

Copyright © 2020 Faith in Kids

Free licence is granted to print or copy this material for personal or noncommercial use. All illustrations and worksheets may be re-sized, copied and used as required. They are restricted to use with Faith in Kids resources only. Any unauthorised copying and distribution other than stated is prohibited.

Living Out (www.livingout.org) commissioned Faith in Kids (www.faithinkids.org) to produce these resources to help children understand Jesus' care for the marginalised. Visit www.faithinkids.org from November 2020 to download these resources.

These resources tie in with our book of family Bible times, 'Meals with Jesus'. Published by The Good Book Company.

thegoodbook.com | thegoodbook.co.uk | thegoodbook.com.au | thegoodbook.co.nz | thegoodbook.co.in

We recommend the International Children's Bible for use with children during the lesson. Our leader's notes use the New International Version.

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Scripture taken from the International Children's Bible®. Copyright © 1986, 1988, 1999 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

'All for the glory of God alone' (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Contents

Preparation	4
Bible Story Idea	6
Lesson Overview	9
 Explorers (3–5s)	10
 Discoverers (5–7s)	12
 Adventurers (8–11s)	14
Mixed Ages (3–11s)	16
Appendix	
Illustrations for this session	19
Worksheets	23
Take Home Truth	25
Craft	26

Supper at Simon's

LUKE 7:36-50



Big Idea:

Jesus' forgiveness brings thankfulness and love.



Faith in Kids looks like:

Children who are growing in thankfulness and love for Jesus because he has forgiven them.



Preparation

Pray and read the Bible passage. Read **Where are we going?** and **Win my heart first** to give you a better understanding of the passage and the **Big Idea**. Spend some time thinking through how this makes a difference to your life.

Read the lesson plan for the age group you will be teaching. Use a **Get Going** or **Brain Break** idea from a different age group if it is better suited to your children.

Prepare your lesson. Think through the **Take 10 minutes to focus!** questions before preparing your

Teaching Time. Use the International Children's Bible (which can be found online at www.biblegateway.com) for a simplified version of the text during **Teaching Time**. Keep the **Big Idea** in your mind to help you teach it clearly in every part of your lesson. Collect/draw/print/make what you need for the different sections of the lesson.

Pray for the children in your group to grasp the **Big Idea** and to live it out in their lives. Remember that you have the Holy Spirit's help as you teach God's word!



Where are we going?

In our second meal with Jesus, we see two very different responses to him. The woman loved Jesus - she couldn't hold it in. Love and thankfulness poured out as she washed Jesus' feet with her tears and hair and anointed them with perfume. Her love was great because she understood she was a sinner and Jesus was her saviour. Simon neglected to show Jesus the

common courtesies a host would show a dinner guest of their time and culture. He did not show great love for Jesus, because his life appeared presentable so he didn't think he needed a saviour. The woman's show of love was commended by Jesus. She was the one who was forgiven. She went in peace.



Win my heart first

What moves you to joyful tears? Is it beautiful scenery, a sports team victory or an incredibly generous and undeserved gift? What does it take for you to pour out your love, thanks or praise without fear of embarrassment or considering what others will think of you?

Forgiveness of sin is the most life changing thing that can ever happen to a person. The woman in today's passage got it. She is thankfulness personified. And it is beautiful. The Christian has the same gift as this woman - undeserved forgiveness. Is it gathering dust in a corner, there but a bit forgotten? Or is it a prized possession that regularly fills your heart with love and thanks to your Lord Jesus?

v37 By tradition this woman was a prostitute, but Luke doesn't tell us that. He does however make it clear to the reader that the guests all knew about her and her sinful reputation. She walked in off the street into Simon's house.

v38 Feet are repulsive at the best of times. In Jesus' day feet would have been covered with sweat, dust and what had been left on the street by passing animals. Perfume was wildly expensive and usually saved for anointing the dead bodies of loved ones. A woman only let down her hair in her bedroom, so to do it in public was as shocking as walking in topless. She washed Jesus' feet with her tears and hair! This woman loved Jesus and there was no limit to how she would show that. She completely humiliated herself out of gratitude.

v39 Simon completely missed the point. He thought Jesus didn't know who the woman was - if he did, he would not let her touch him. Jesus knew everything the woman had done, and still forgave her (v48). It is possible to respect Jesus yet not love him, if we don't realise the filth of our sin that he can forgive.

v41-42 The more that we understand what we have been forgiven for, the more we will love. All of this woman's actions were traceable to the forgiveness of her sins - a debt she could do nothing to repay. The parable teaches that when we understand the vast size of our debt we will thank Jesus wildly. There is no one who owes Jesus a tiny debt.

The forgiveness comes first, then our love for Jesus, not the other way round.

v44-47 Great love for Jesus is shown by service. Others may not understand why individuals choose to serve Jesus as they do, but Jesus does. The secret of embarrassing, enormous, selfless service is not great effort, or understanding, but great love. If we long for our children's lives to be marked by great service, then we should be showing them more of Jesus, and looking for them to love him more.

v49 They were shocked that Jesus could forgive sins. So, probably, their sins had not been forgiven. The parable (v41-42) does not mean that Simon had been forgiven a little, he probably left the meal unforgiven.



Question for my heart

What do love and thankfulness to Jesus look like for you? Are they overflowing or has familiarity dried them up? Spend some time marvelling at Jesus' love, mercy and compassion to you in forgiving you. Take some time to thank him for the gift of forgiveness.



Bible Story Idea

This has been written as an all-age slot to introduce the whole church family to what the children are learning today, but it could be adapted for the children's classes.



Helpers Needed

Actors to play the parts of Simon, Jesus and the woman.



Props

Mug, greeting card, bottle of perfume, 2 large card hearts with 'sinner' written on them, large card heart with 'forgiven' written on it.



In Advance

If you don't have a raised stage, set up a sturdy table at the front of the room for Simon and Jesus to lie on when they are 'reclining at the table' so that they are clearly visible.



What to Say

What do you think is a good way to show someone you love them? A hug? A cup of tea? A card or a letter?

In our next meal, Jesus was invited to eat at the home of a man named Simon. He was a Pharisee which means he was a good church-attending man who was well respected. He hosted a meal for Jesus and in those days they would eat meals lying down, a bit like this...

It was at this meal that a woman arrived. She hadn't been invited but she wanted to see Jesus. She came to him at the table and knelt down near his feet. She was sobbing. Her tears fell on Jesus' feet and she started to wipe the dirt away with her hair and tears. Then she broke open a bottle of very expensive perfume and poured it all over his feet.



What to Do

Hold up the items.

Simon enters the scene.

Jesus enters the scene. He and Simon lie down with their feet pointing outwards.

The woman volunteer enters the scene and acts out the crying, washing and spraying of perfume over Jesus' feet.



What to Say



What to Do

It was surprising and a bit embarrassing!

Simon wasn't happy when he saw this. He thought, 'if Jesus knew what that woman was like then he would tell her to get away from him.'

This woman had a bad reputation and everyone knew it.

Hand the woman a 'sinner' heart.

But, Jesus did know what this woman was like. He knew every bad thing she'd ever done but he didn't push her away or tell her to leave. He welcomed her because he knew what was really happening in her heart.

Jesus knew that this woman hugely, massively LOVED him. It wasn't a mushy romantic kind of love. It was a thankful love. She knew that Jesus loved her and welcomed her even though she had done some awful things in her life.

This woman understood she was a sinner. She knew she needed a saviour - she knew she needed Jesus.

Let's get back to Simon. He had invited Jesus for a meal but hadn't done anything special for him. That's because Simon didn't understand who Jesus was - a saviour. And Simon didn't understand what he, himself, was really like - a sinner. Behind the layers of looking good and doing what was right, Simon also had a heart that was messy and sinful.

Hand Simon 'sinner' heart.

continued →



What to Say

Two very different people had a meal with Jesus that day...
One thought he was good.
One knew she wasn't good.
Only one of them was really forgiven.
And so only one of them loved Jesus.

Sinners know they need a saviour. When we understand how bad our sin is then we'll be really grateful to Jesus for forgiving us. It's only when we know how much we've been forgiven that we will be full of love, joy and thankfulness for him, that everyone can see.

Pray



What to Do

Point to Simon.
Point to woman.
Jesus hands a 'forgiven' heart to the woman.



Lesson Overview



10 minutes
to focus



Get
Going



Teaching
Time



Brain
Break



Heart &
Hands



10 Minutes to Focus

When preparing, keep these questions in mind and check your planning to see that you are ready to engage your group. Take that clarity into your **Teaching Time** so that you get the **Big Idea** across.



Get Going

Focus the children's attention on the theme of the session using a game or activity. Light, not manic, so that the children can be calm afterwards, with their minds ready.



Teaching Time

Teach the key content of the lesson in an engaging way. Place emphasis to point clearly to the **Big Idea**. If you have used the **Bible Story Idea** already, you may not need to cover the whole story again. If not, you can adapt it to use here with your group or tell the story in another way, perhaps using the suggestions below. However you do this **Teaching Time**, conclude with a simple explanation of the **Big Idea**.



Brain Break

A chance to rest the children's minds before **Heart and Hands**. Get children moving. Finish by linking the activity to the **Big Idea** so that this time serves the Bible story.



Heart & Hands

Small group discussion:

The vital chance for the children to reflect on the story, so that its truths impact their hearts. They do the talking, not the leader. All the children need to be given the opportunity to respond. Ask each question to multiple children. The questions will lead the children to see how their heads (thoughts), hearts (feelings) and hands (actions) are shaped by the Bible story through the work of the Spirit.



Explorers

3–5s



Take 10 minutes to focus! Think about how the woman felt when she saw Jesus – her saviour. How will you help the children understand that her actions came from thankfulness and love? The parable is an illustration to explain the point Jesus is making. Younger children will struggle to understand how a made-up story fits into a true story, so do not focus on this.



Get Going


'Thank You' Show

You will need:

A puppet/stuffed animal toy, a random selection of toys, a box, dustpan and brush, dry food – cereal/rice/pasta, gift bag.

Scatter the toys around the box and put the dry food on the floor. Introduce the puppet/stuffed animal toy to the children. Ask them to help him put the toys away and sweep up the mess (let children take turns using the dustpan and brush). Then give him a gift. After each scenario, interact with the puppet and

ask him what he can say to the children for helping him/giving him a gift. Have him respond with silly responses e.g. 'sorry/please for helping me'. Ask the children to tell the puppet what he needs to say – thank you. Talk about when you say 'thank you' and other ways you could show you are thankful – a hug, a card, a big smile.

 **Link:** In today's story, we will hear about a woman who said a big thank you to Jesus in a very strange way. Let's find out why she was so thankful...



Teaching Time

You will need:

Printed Bible story illustrations (see **Appendix**), a girl doll and perfumed foot cream.

Have the children take off their shoes and socks. Talk about how feet get dirty and smelly when you play outside in the dirt with no shoes on. Ask them if they would want to kiss another person's smelly toes!

Pretend the doll is the woman in the story and she is telling the children her story by pointing out different things in the pictures. Explain that people knew who she was and the bad things she had done. When people saw her they all thought, 'she's a sinner, she's done a lot of bad stuff.'

Show picture 1 and tell the children that she went to see Jesus at Simon's house to say a big thank you to Jesus. She loved Jesus so much she cried when she saw him.

Show picture 2 and explain that she washed his feet with her tears and hair to show him her love. Hold up the perfumed cream and explain how it was very special and expensive. Ask a child to be a volunteer and pretend to wash, dry and kiss their feet before rubbing perfumed cream on them. (Don't use real cream if the child has skin allergies or sensory issues – just pretend).

Show picture 3 and tell the children about Simon and how he wasn't happy about what the woman did for Jesus. He thought Jesus should be like him and tell the woman to go away because she was bad – a sinner. But Jesus isn't like that. He was kind and loving to the woman.

Show picture 4. Simon thought he was good enough. He didn't love Jesus. She knew she was bad and needed Jesus. She loved Jesus a lot because he forgave all her sin.

Finish off by reminding the children that we all have a sin problem. The woman knew she needed Jesus because she had done things wrong. Simon thought he didn't need Jesus but he was wrong. We all need Jesus to forgive us too. And we can say a very big

thank you to Jesus for forgiving our sins.

Pray and thank Jesus for loving and saving sinners.

End with the memory sentence - 'Jesus forgives. Thank you Jesus!' Get the children to repeat it back to you a few times.




Brain Break

Thank You Jesus

Call out the following phrases at random and get the children to do the linked actions.

- At the table - sit down and pretend to eat
- Kissing feet - kneel on the floor and pretend to kiss feet
- Spray perfume - pretend to spray perfume and make a 'pscht' sound

- Unhappy Simon - cross arms, shake head and look unhappy
- Your sins are forgiven - all shout out 'thank you Jesus', jump up and down with joy

 **Link:** The woman in the story said a big thank you to Jesus because he forgave her sins.



Heart & Hands

Craft Time - Make scented feet

You will need:

Coloured card, marker pen, spray perfume, heart stickers.

Draw around the child's foot on the card. Write 'Jesus forgives. Thank you Jesus!' on the page. Let the children decorate it with stickers and spray it with perfume. This is your opportunity to make things personal for each child - ask them why they love Jesus and what they could thank him for. Use this craft time to reinforce the **Big Idea** of the lesson to get them ready for **Think Time**.

Think Time

Use the illustrations to remind the children of the story. Point to different parts of the pictures and ask

them to tell you what is happening. Let the children rub perfumed hand cream on their hands/feet as you talk about how the woman said 'thank you' to Jesus. Can the children remember why she was so thankful? Spend some time talking about how loving and kind Jesus is to forgive sins.

Big Question

Why did the woman love Jesus? He forgave her.

A follow up question

How did she thank Jesus? She put perfume on his feet.

Pray

Dear Jesus, thank you for forgiving people. Please help us to always say 'thank you' to you. Amen.



Discoverers

5-7s



Take 10 minutes to focus! Think about the woman's response to her forgiveness. How will you help your children to see that forgiveness of sin can lead to loving Jesus that much? Do your children know how special forgiveness of sin is? Younger children will struggle to understand how the parable, a made-up story, fits into a true story, so do not focus on this.



Get Going

Show Your Thanks

You will need:

Objects or pictures of items like half of a jelly baby sweet, an apple, a hamburger, a can of lemonade/soda, a five pound note, a puppy, a bouncy castle, a swimming pool (a pool at home - not a communal pool).

Explain to your group that you will pretend to give them a series of gifts (the objects or pictures). For each one they must act out saying 'thank you' in a way that

makes it clear how thankful they would be if they really received the gift e.g. if they are not very thankful, they may say it in a way that shows they've been told to say 'thank you', or they may say it with huge excitement, celebrating and jumping around. Show each gift to the group and then ask for volunteers to come to the front to act out how they would say 'thank you'.

Link: In today's story, we will hear about a woman who was very thankful. She showed her thanks in a very surprising way.



Teaching Time

You will need:

A picnic blanket, juice and biscuits, perfumed foot cream, large full bin bag (fill it with pillows or scrunched newspaper), 3 children to act as Jesus, Simon and the woman.

Set out the juice and biscuits on the blanket and invite the children to 'Supper at Simon's house'. Choose the children to act as Jesus, Simon and the woman. Get the children to take off their shoes and socks and lie on the floor around the blanket - feet pointing outwards. Explain that Jesus - a very important guest - was also joining them for the meal - all pretend to be amazed as he joins them around the blanket. Get the children to act as you read out the story. Let the child acting as the woman rub perfumed cream onto the feet of the child acting as Jesus. (If either child has skin allergies or sensory issues, don't use real cream - they can just pretend).

After the story has been acted out, call up 'Simon', 'the woman' and 'Jesus' to the front. Explain that the woman was a sinner and everyone knew what she was like. She

had done a lot of bad stuff. If her sin was like rubbish in a bin bag it would be a full bag (hand the stuffed bin bag to 'the woman'). When people saw her, they saw her sin and didn't want to be near her. Explain that Simon tried really hard to be good all the time - he didn't think he had any sin. But, everyone sins and needs Jesus to forgive them. Explain that the woman knew who Jesus really was - a saviour. She knew he had forgiven her sin (move the full bin bag away from 'the woman' to 'Jesus'). That's why she said a big thank you to Jesus by washing his feet and using expensive perfume on them. She wanted to show Jesus she loved him for saving her. The woman loved Jesus because she knew she was a sinner who needed to be forgiven by Jesus. Simon didn't think he was a sinner who needed Jesus. So he didn't love Jesus.

As you finish, keep in mind the **Big Idea** and the questions you thought through in **Take 10 minutes to focus**. Explain that we all have a sin problem and need Jesus to forgive us. The more we understand how awful our sin is, the more we'll love Jesus for forgiving us.

Pray and thank Jesus for loving and saving sinners.



Brain Break

Dirty Feet Obstacle Course

You will need:

Large tarpaulin/old sheet, plastic cones, large sheets of plain paper, perfumed foot cream, towels, shallow plastic tubs with the following in each - water, flour, baked beans, sugar, poster paint, soapy water.

Use the suggested course or create your own to suit the abilities of your group (also consider allergies/sensory issues). Avoid actions that could lead to slipping with wet/slimy feet. Set up the course on the tarpaulin/sheet or outside on grass. Divide the children into teams.

Course suggestion:

- Hop to the water - wet feet.
- Crawl to the flour - cover feet.
- Walk backwards around cones to the baked beans - stand in the tub and march on the spot 3 times.
- Walk heel to toe to the sugar - cover feet.
- With another team member do a 'wheelbarrow' to the paint - step into the tub then onto a large sheet of paper to make footprints (keep this paper for Heart & Hands).
- Move to the soapy water - wash and dry feet, apply perfumed cream.

 **Link:** The woman washed Jesus' feet as a big thank you for forgiving her.



Heart & Hands

Use the illustrations to help the children remember the story. Worksheet A is the suggested sheet for this age group. The questions below can mostly be found on the worksheet which has been designed to aid your discussion. If possible, enlarge the page to A3 so you can work on it together. Make sure each child can still answer the personal questions honestly for themselves (e.g. hand out Post-it notes for them to write/draw their answers to these questions).

Did you spot it?

- Who invited Jesus for a meal? What did people think of Simon?
- Who came to say 'thank you' to Jesus? What did people think of the woman?
- What did the woman use to clean Jesus' feet?

Work it out

- Why did the woman clean Jesus' feet?
- What was the woman saying 'thank you' for?
- How much do you think Simon and the woman loved Jesus? Why do you think they loved Jesus that much?

Live it out

- How much do you love Jesus? Why do you love

Jesus that much? Ask the children if they have been forgiven by Jesus - they can answer in their heads. *Help them think about how being forgiven is the best thing Jesus can do for us. Our love for Jesus is because we know what he has done for us by forgiving us.*

- If Jesus was here with us now, what would you want to say or do for him?
- We can't clean Jesus' feet. How can we show Jesus we love him?

Prayer

Finish the sentences - 'I love you Jesus because...' or 'Thank you Jesus for...' Turn those sentences into prayers.

Craft Time

Make a 'Thankful Woman' spinning wheel.

You will need: a copy of the craft sheet, cut out, for each child (see Appendix), pencil crayons/felt tips, scissors, split pins and spray perfume.

Let the children colour their spinning wheel before assembling it with a split pin. Spray the picture of the woman with perfume. This is your opportunity to make things personal for each child. Spend time asking them about why they love Jesus and what they could thank him for.



Adventurers 8-11s



Take 10 minutes to focus! Who do you think your children will identify with most in the story? Think about what each of them needs to hear. Do they feel like the sinful woman – the person everyone looks at and sees all the bad stuff they do? Or are they more like Simon – comfortable with their behaviour and needing to see how much they also need Jesus?




Get Going

How Thankful Would You Be?

You will need the following things/actions written on separate pieces of paper (use these suggestions or your own examples):

Latest Xbox, new iPhone, large sum of money, a pet, fancy holiday, having a home to live in, meals cooked for them every day, a friend picking them to be in their sports team, someone sticking up for them, being invited to a party etc.

Ask the children to arrange the things/actions in order of what they would be most thankful for. It will differ for each child – talk about why they would put things in a certain order. Then, add in a picture of a cross and ask them where they would put 'being forgiven by Jesus' compared to the other items/actions. They may think the 'right answer' is to put it in the 'most thankful' spot – ask them why Jesus' forgiveness is something to be thankful for.

 **Link:** What the woman did in today's story shows us how thankful she was that Jesus forgave her.



Teaching Time

You will need:

Pens, Bibles and a large sheet of paper divided into 2 columns – one labelled as 'Simon' and the other as 'The woman'.

Read through the passage, then explain that you are going to find out everything you can about 'Simon' and 'the woman' from what is in the passage. To do this, the children need to go through the text and write down anything it says about them.

If you have a large class, divide the children into smaller groups. Either get them to do the same exercise or give half the children 'Simon' and the other half 'the woman' to find information on.

After finding all the information, ask the children

the following questions to compare 'Simon' and 'the woman':

- What were they like? What did other people think about them?
- What did they think about themselves?
- What did they do/not do that night at the dinner?
- What did Jesus say about them? Who was forgiven?

Finish with a point or two about what this story teaches us about how amazing Jesus' forgiveness is. Keep in mind the **Big Idea** and the questions you thought through in **Take 10 minutes to focus** as you explain that the more we understand how awful our sin is, the more we'll love Jesus for forgiving us.




Brain Break

Spell It Out

Get the children to spell out 'Thank you Jesus' with their bodies. Depending on how many children you have in your group you may have to do one word at a time or if you have a very small group then do the letters individually by getting all the children to lie on

the floor to make one large letter.

 **Link:** We can show we are thankful in many different ways. The woman in today's story washed Jesus' feet with her tears and hair to show how thankful she was to him.



Heart & Hands

Use the illustrations to help the children remember the story. Worksheet B is the suggested sheet for this age group. The questions below can mostly be found on the worksheet which has been designed to aid your discussion. If possible, enlarge the page to A3 so you can work on it together. Make sure each child can still answer the personal questions honestly for themselves (e.g. hand out Post-it notes for them to write/draw their answers to these questions).

she is forgiven. Heart - she loved Jesus. Hands - showed thankfulness by what she did for Jesus.)

Did you spot it?

- Who invited Jesus for a meal?
- Who wasn't invited but came to see Jesus?
- What did the woman clean Jesus' feet with?

Live it out

- Have you been forgiven a little, a lot or not at all by Jesus? Why do you think that?
- Why is forgiveness of sin the best thing we can be given?
- If you could see Jesus face to face now, what would you want to say or do for him?
- How would loving Jesus because of his forgiveness change your head (how you think), heart (how you feel) and hands (your actions)? What are ways you can show love and thankfulness for being forgiven by Jesus this week?

Work it out

- Why did the woman wash Jesus' feet and put perfume on them? What was she thanking him for?
- Do you think she was forgiven because she did something nice for Jesus? Why?
- Why do you think Simon didn't love Jesus? What would need to change for him to love Jesus?
- How did being forgiven by Jesus change the woman's thoughts, feelings and actions? (Get the children to draw a head, heart and hands next to the statements on the worksheet that show how that was changed by being forgiven. Head - she knows

Prayer

- Short joyful prayers of thanks to Jesus for forgiveness.
- Who would you like to pray for to be 'wowed' by Jesus' forgiveness?

Craft Time

Use the craft if you have time available after your discussion. Craft instructions can be found in the Discoverers **Craft Time** section. Or get the children into pairs to clean each other's feet with wet wipes and then apply some perfumed cream to them.



Xtra Stretch

- Do you think it is unfair that Simon wasn't forgiven even though he tried hard to keep lots of God's rules? Why?
- Do you ever find it hard to show Jesus love and thankfulness? Why?
- What would you say to a friend who said, 'I'm pretty good, why do I need to be forgiven for my sins?'
- Has this story shown you anything new about what Jesus is like? What have you seen?



Mixed Ages

3–11s

This component is suitable for a mixed group of children aged 3–11 years old. Use this if you are unable to break your group into smaller classes because of the number of children or leaders you have.



Take 10 minutes to focus! Do your children understand that forgiveness is the best thing that will ever happen to them? How can you help them to see that the woman really got it? That's why she loved Jesus so much.



Get Going

Many Thanks


You will need:

Pictures of a bus driver, a lollipop person, a grandparent, a hug, a cuddle, a thank you card, a high five, a bunch of flowers.

Use the pictures of the bus driver, lollipop lady and grandparent for the younger children (under 5's). Show them the pictures and talk about when and how would you thank them. Help the children to act out saying

'thank you' to those different people.

Give the older children the rest of the pictures. Get them to come up with scenarios of when and who you would thank with a hug/cuddle/thank you card etc. Have them prepare to briefly act out some scenes to the whole group.

 **Link:** There are lots of different ways to say 'thank you'. In today's story, we will see a very big thank you said in a very strange way.



Teaching Time

You will need:

Bible story illustrations (see **Appendix**), a picnic blanket, Post-it notes, pens/pencils.

Start by getting the older children to look at the text and write words on the Post-it notes that describe what Simon and the woman were like. While they do that, look at the Bible story illustrations with the younger children and tell them the story in a very simple way.

Then, get all the children to lie around the picnic blanket with feet pointing outwards. Choose children to act as Jesus, Simon and the woman. Get older children to read out the passage (leave out verses 40–43) and the rest of the children to be the people around the table.

After you have acted out the story, get 'Simon' and 'the woman' to stand at the front. Let the older children read out and stick the Post-it notes to them to help the group understand what they were both like. Compare the 2 characters and talk about what people thought they were like and what they thought about themselves. Talk about how Simon thought he was good so he didn't think he needed to be forgiven. He was wrong. But, the women knew she had done many bad things, she knew she was a sinner who needed Jesus. She trusted Jesus as her saviour and was forgiven. Talk about how her actions showed how much she loved Jesus. Compare that with Simon's actions – what does that show us about how he felt about Jesus?

As you finish, keep in mind the **Big Idea** and the

questions you thought through in **Take 10 minutes to focus**. Explain that we all have a sin problem and need Jesus to forgive us. The more we understand how awful

our sin is, the more we'll love Jesus for forgiving us.

Pray and thank Jesus for loving and saving sinners.



Brain Break


Joyfully Forgiven

You will need:

Small pieces of paper with 'forgiven' written on them.

Divide the group into teams. Line up on one side of the room with the 'forgiven' papers on the other side. One at a time, a child from each team must walk in a sad way (slumped shoulders/sad face/dragging feet) to the 'forgiven' papers. They pick up a paper and

must then return to their group in the most joyful way possible (jumping/skipping/whooping) while shouting 'thank you!' The team who shows the most joy and enthusiasm when 'forgiven' wins.

 **Link:** It feels good to be forgiven - we can show that in different ways. The woman in the story was so thankful to be forgiven - she showed it by washing Jesus' feet.



Heart & Hands

If you have more than one leader then you could split up into smaller groups of similar aged children (if possible). If not then get the younger ones busy with a craft so you can have some discussion time with the older children.

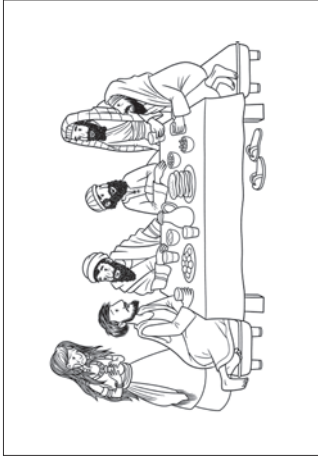
Use the illustrations to help the children remember the story.

Depending on your children, use the craft/worksheet and questions that will suit them best from the Explorers/Discoverers/Adventurers sections.

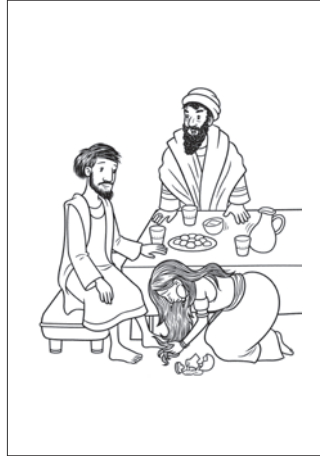


Appendix

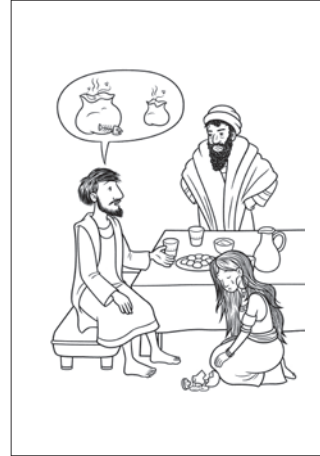
The following pages can be copied, printed and used to accompany this lesson.



p19



p20



p21



p22

Worksheet

A

p23

Worksheet

B

p24

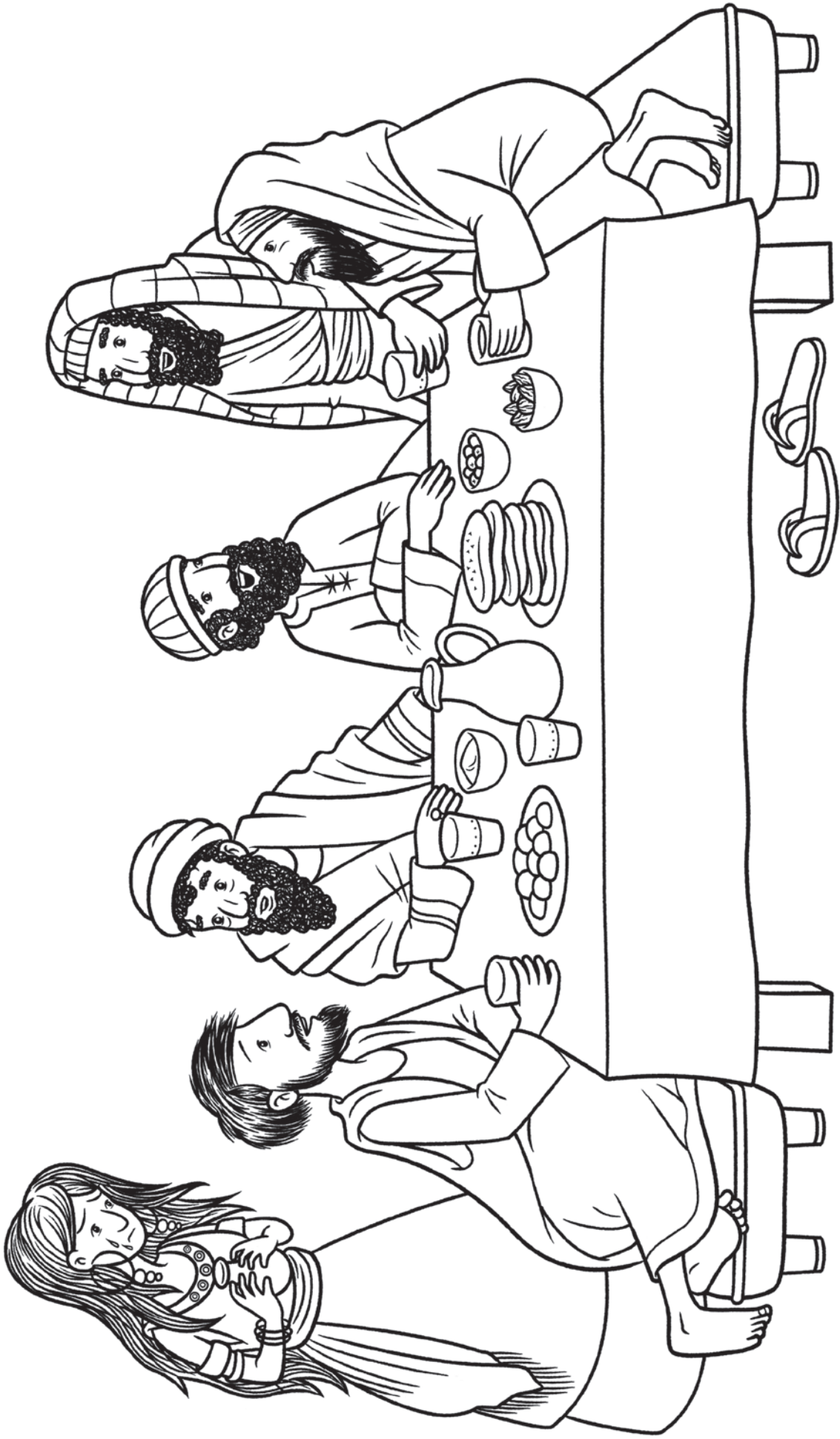
Take Home
Truth

(parent handout)

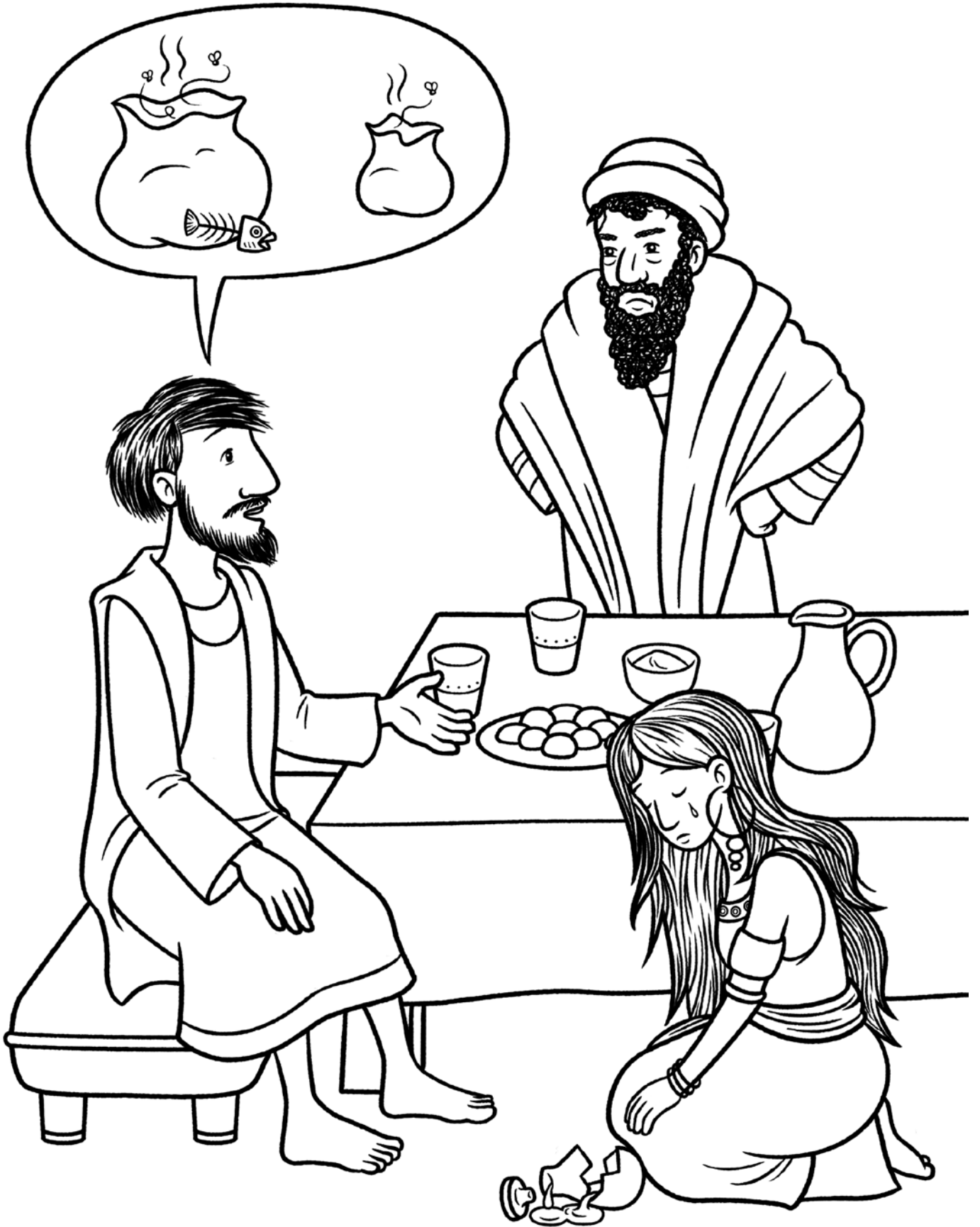
p25

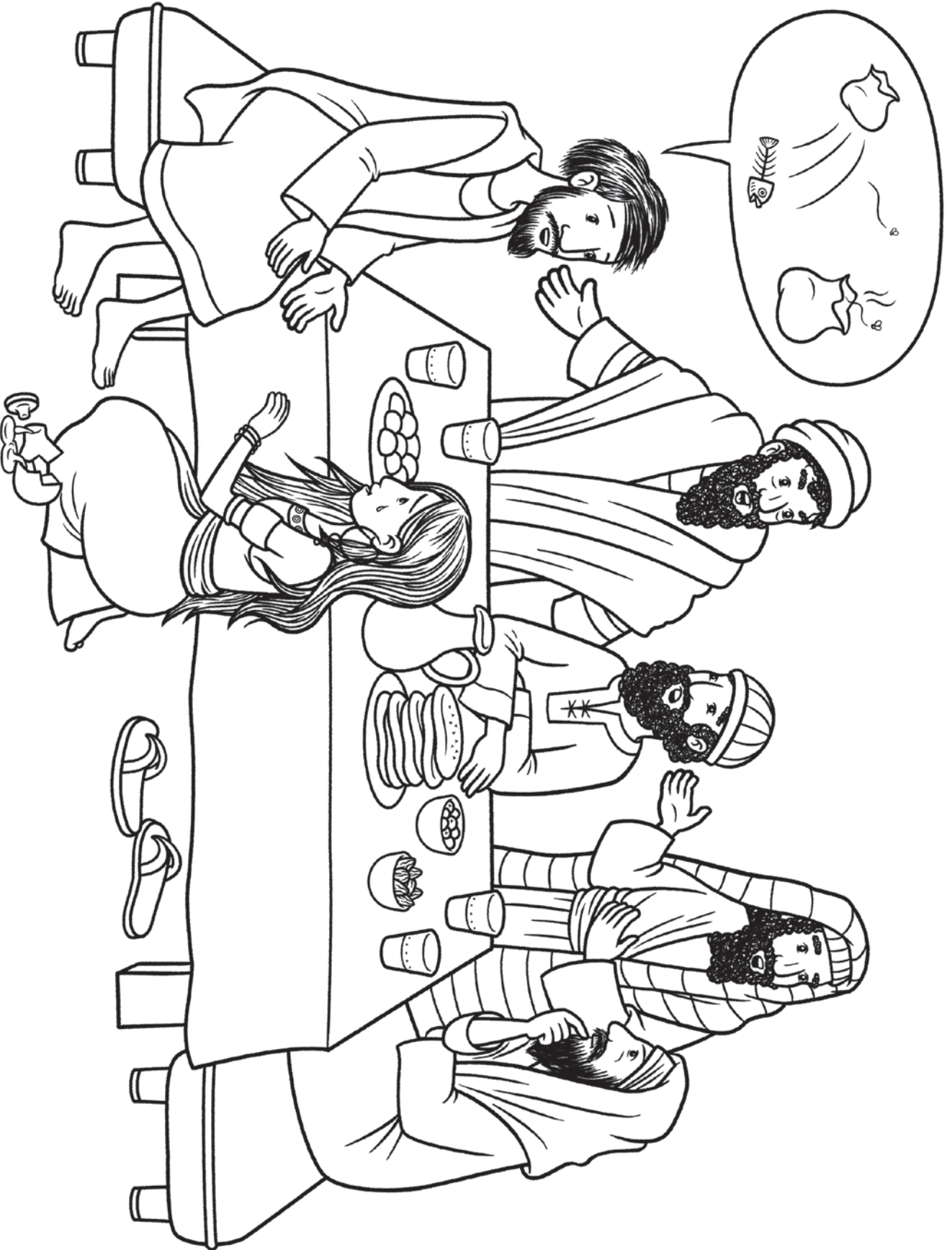
Craft

p26











MEALS WITH JESUS

Lesson 2: Supper at Simon's

LUKE 7:36-50



Did you spot it?



Circle in yellow - the person who invited Jesus for a meal

Circle in blue - the person who came to say 'thank you' to Jesus



Colour in what the woman used to clean Jesus feet



Work it out



Tick The Right Answer

The woman cleaned Jesus feet to say...

- How are you?
- Thank you
- Goodbye



She said 'thank you' because...

- She won a prize 🏆
- Jesus forgave her sins ❤️
- She was given a puppy 🐶

How much did they love Jesus?

Draw a heart for Simon.



Draw a heart for the woman.



Live it out

How much do you love Jesus?
Draw a heart.

How can you show Jesus you love him? Write or draw your answer.

B

MEALS WITH JESUS

Lesson 2: Supper at Simon's

LUKE 7:36-50



Did you spot it?

The answers can be made from these letters...

AAA EEEE F H I MM
NN OO R SS U

Who invited Jesus for a meal?

_ I _ _ _

Who wasn't invited but came to see Jesus?

T _ _ W _ _ _ _

What did the woman clean Jesus feet with?

T _ _ R _ , H _ _ R , P _ _ _ _ M _



Work it out

Tick a YES / NO box for each statement.



The woman

YES NO

- She knew she was a sinner
- Forgiven by Jesus
- Showed thankfulness
- Loved Jesus

Simon

YES NO

- He knew he was a sinner
- Forgiven by Jesus
- Showed thankfulness
- Loved Jesus



Live it out

Have you been forgiven by Jesus?
Circle your answer on the scale.

NO



FULLY

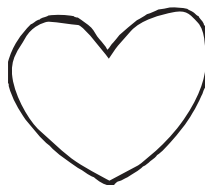
Why?

How would loving Jesus because of his forgiveness change your head (how you think), heart (how you feel) and hands (your actions)?

How I think...



How I feel...



My actions...





Use these questions to get a conversation started about today's lesson with your child. Pick a time that sets you up for success - maybe in the car on the way home or before bedtime. Make yourself part of the conversation and share your own ideas - this is not a test!

MEALS WITH JESUS

Lesson 2: Supper at Simon's

LUKE 7:36-50



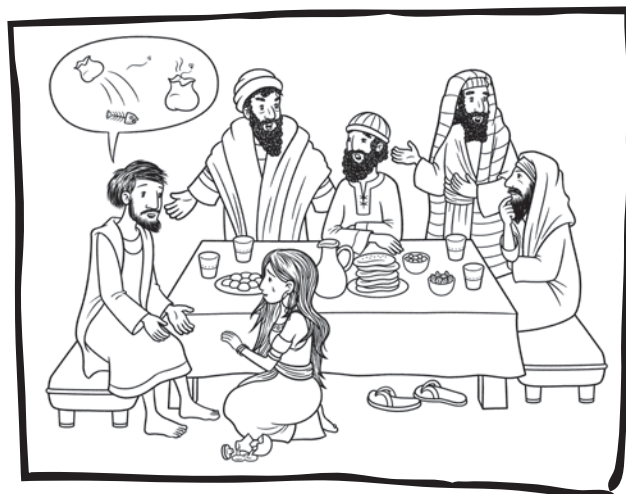
Big Idea:

Jesus' forgiveness brings thankfulness and love.



Faith in Kids looks like:

Children who are growing in thankfulness and love for Jesus because he has forgiven them.



3-5s

- Why did the woman love Jesus? *He forgave her.*
- How did she thank Jesus? *She put perfume on his feet.*



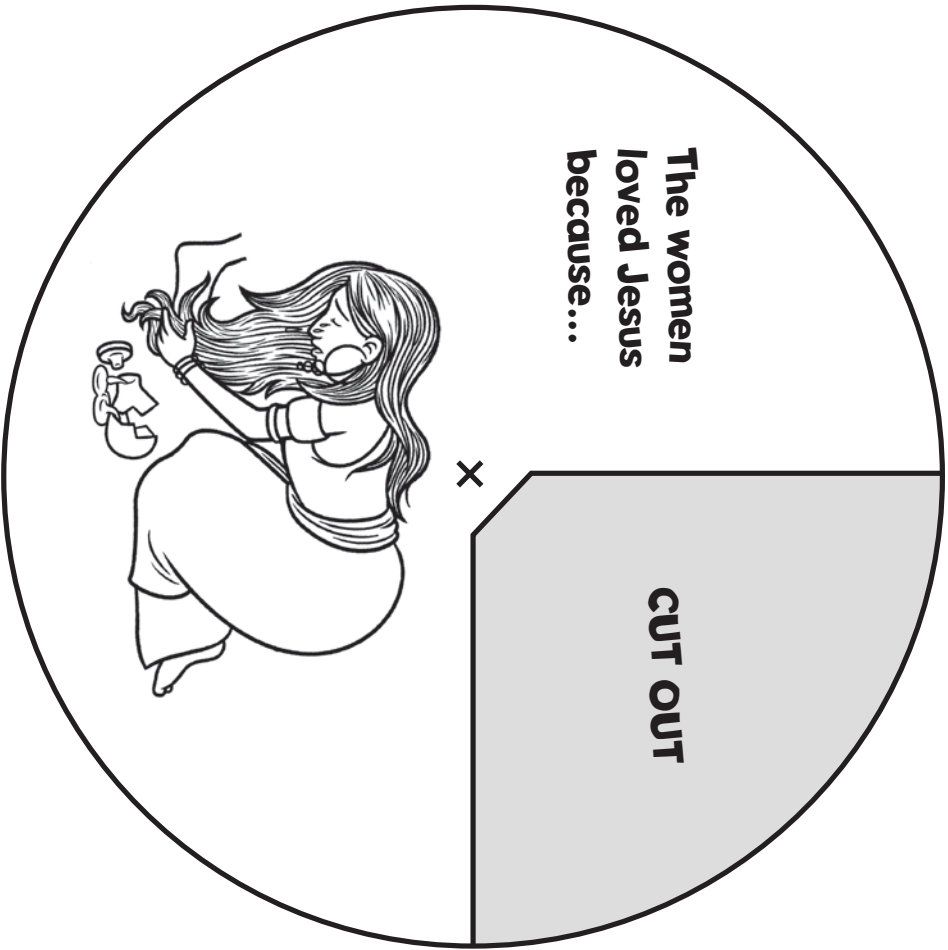
5-7s

- What did the woman do for Jesus?
- Why did she do that for him?
- How can you show Jesus you love him?



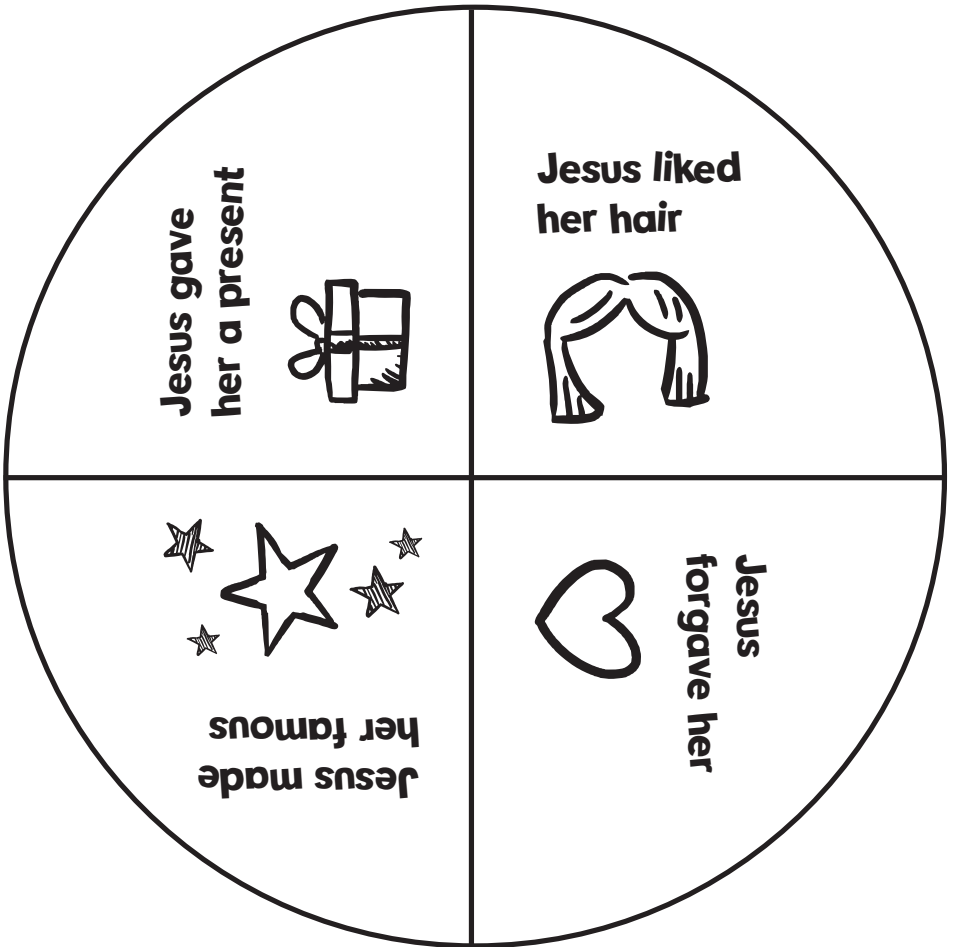
8-11s

- What did the woman clean Jesus' feet with?
- Who loved Jesus in the story? Why?
- How does Jesus' forgiveness change your thoughts, how you feel and your actions?



The women
loved Jesus
because...

CUT OUT



Jesus gave
her a present



Jesus liked
her hair



Jesus made
her famous



Jesus
forgave her



Meals with Jesus

Cover artwork
inspired by

The logo for The Good Book Company features a red swoosh above the text. "the" is in lowercase black, "good" is in lowercase red, and "book" is in lowercase black. Below this, "COMPANY" is written in all caps black.

the**good**book
COMPANY

The logo for Faith in Kids features the word "faith" in lowercase red, "in" in lowercase white inside a red circle, and "kids" in lowercase red.

faith**in**kids

www.faithinkids.org