

# C<sup>1</sup> onechurch

## bigIdea

Sometimes, without meaning to, the church can communicate things that sound right, but when you look in the Bible, they're just wrong. They're not found anywhere in the Bible, and these wrong beliefs hinder our spiritual growth.

Today, we're looking at the lie, "*Sin is like a contagious virus.*" If you hang out with sinners, you'll catch sin. So don't hang out with people who do bad things. And we're going to see how Jesus' interaction with a former leper, now turned Pharisee and an immoral woman should change the way we interact with everyone, because Jesus loves sinners but dislikes proud, religious people.



**BIG IDEA:** Found people don't find people when they forget their foul-ups.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Luke 7:36-50 and Matthew 26:6-7. Who invites Jesus to dinner? Why the invitation? What is significant about Simon's past? (Read *Leviticus 13* for background).
2. Who is the uninvited guest? What do you learn about her in Luke 7:37? What does she do? What should Simon have done? (Luke 7:44-47) Why do you think the woman came to Simon's house?
3. Why do you think Simon is so upset? How did he feel when the sinful woman touched Jesus?
4. How is Simon the leper now turned Pharisee and this woman alike? How are they different?
5. In Jesus' story about the 2 men who owed money, what do you think Jesus was trying to say to Simon?
  - You can't know grace because you have never thought of yourself as a sinner.
  - The more you have sinned, the more you love God.
  - You are a bigger sinner than this woman, but you just don't know it.
  - The more you have been forgiven, the more you love God.
6. What is the bottom line for the woman? (Luke 7:48)
7. Are you more like Simon or the immoral woman?
8. Why is it easy to forget our past failures and foul-ups and become judgmental like Simon the former leper/now turned religious?
9. Who was the 'Jesus' in your life who believed in you and saw beauty in you before you believed in yourself?
10. Read Luke 18:9-14. How much of your own problems could you freely share with the Pharisee in this story? How much could you share with the tax collector? If the tax collector in this story showed up to your group, how would he be received? If the Pharisee in this story showed up to your group, how would he be received?
11. Read Matthew 11:19. What reputation did Jesus have? Do you believe Jesus believed that "You catch sin from being around sinners?" What is your reputation when it comes to hanging out with outsiders?
12. Who do you know that is disconnected from God? How will you engage them this year for the purpose of introducing them to their Heavenly Father?

### THINK ABOUT IT

Jesus came into this world for the ostracized and the outsiders, not for those who have it all together. What makes this weird to talk about is that all of us have been outsiders at one time or another. All of us have been ostracized because of our sinfulness.

### WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Commit to pray for one disconnected person every day this year. Pray that God would open up opportunities for you to be a part of their life and for the opportunity to talk with them about your faith.

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*"I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love."* Luke 7:47