

# Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 3

## Law/Gospel

My sin troubles and harms me, condemning me to eternal death. **God offers His love and forgiveness to me and all sinners who call upon Him for mercy and grants me His peace.**

## Bible Words

And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."  
Luke 7:50

## Fun Fact

In Bible times, eating a meal together showed friendship and commitment that obliged each person to protect and serve the other and avoid betrayals.

People commonly greeted one another with hearty hugs, a kiss on each cheek, and a greeting such as "peace to you" or "the Lord bless you." Likewise, a good-bye was drawn out with many hugs, kisses, and blessings.

## Jesus Is Anointed

Luke 7:36–50

**M**iddle Easterners are known for their hospitality. In Bible times, a host welcomed a guest with a kiss, a meal, and a promise of protection.

As a sign of acceptance, welcome, and honor, a host provided water to wash feet made grimy by walking dusty roads in sandals. A servant usually provided this service for guests. Failure to provide such hospitality was an insult or a sign of hostility.

A Pharisee named Simon offered none of these hospitalities when He invited Jesus to dinner. Curiosity or social pressure may have prompted the invitation, but Simon's lack of hospitality showed his real feelings.

During the meal, a woman described as a sinner crashed the party. Standing behind Jesus, she wept, washed Jesus' feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and anointed them with ointment.

Simon felt horrified. How dare a woman with publicly known sin come to his home! Simon thought, "If Jesus was a prophet, He'd know what kind of woman is touching Him." Jesus perceived his thoughts. He asked Simon who would love a moneylender more if he forgave their debt, one who owed five hundred denarii or one who owed fifty denarii?

When Simon answered the one who owed more, Jesus confronted his lack of hospitality. He said the woman, whose many sins were forgiven, loved much. The one who is forgiven little, loves little.

With faith and thankfulness, the woman braved a hostile environment to thank her Lord with loving service. Publicly, Jesus forgave the woman's sins. "Your faith has saved you," He said. "Go in peace."

## Sing

What a friend we have in Jesus, / All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry / Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; / Oh, what needless pain we bear—  
All because we do not carry, / Ev'rything to God in prayer!

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus," *Lutheran Service Book* 770, stanza 1

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