

## **The impact of forgiveness...**

Luke 7: 36-50.

Galatians 2:15-21.

### **1.The impact on our relationship with God.**

Luke 7:37 *'When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, (38) and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.'*

Galatians 2:16 *'...a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.'*

- Deep gratitude.
- Complete dependence.
- Profound personal relationship.
- Desire to serve Him.

### **2.The impact on our relationship with Ourselves.**

Luke 7:47 *' "Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven - for she loved much." (48) Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ' (50) Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."*

Galatians 2:20 *'I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.'*

- A sense of liberation.
- A sense of peace.
- A sense of worth.
- An empowered life.

### **3.The impact on our relationship with Others.**

Luke 7:39 *'When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is - that she is a sinner."'*

Galatians 2: 21 *'I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!'*

- A sense of equality with others.
- Committed to compassion, realising our own lack of moral superiority.
- Not trying to impose burdens on others.
- In the heat and dust, alongside others. But we are different – because of the forgiveness we have received & empowered to show this in our lives.

### **Applying the scriptures.**

1. Luke 7:37-38 & Gal 2:16. In what ways does the power of forgiveness affect the kind of relationship we have with God?

2. In Luke 7:50, Jesus literally said: *'go into peace'*. How does this sum up the difference forgiveness makes to our lives?

3. What does Gal 2:20 mean? Describe this in your own words.

4. Think about the Pharisee's attitude in Luke 7:39 (look also at Gal 2:21). In what ways should the experience of God's forgiveness change the way we relate to other people?