

Love and Forgiveness

Characters: Jesus, Simon, Woman, Servant, 2 people & Property owner + Narrators

Cast need to act out what the Narrators say: Jesus needs to have bare feet; Woman needs a hair band with long strands of wool coming down from it.

Narrator 1: Jesus was on the street teaching the crowds when a religious leader invited Jesus to his house for dinner.

Narrator 2: These religious leaders were called Pharisees and they were responsibly for teaching the people the Law of God.

Narrator 3: Pharisees kept strict rules about eating and who they associated with.

Narrator 4: This Pharisee was called Simon.

Narrator 1: Simon invited many of his friends to the meal and Jesus came with his disciples.

Narrator 5: They sat eating the meal outside in the courtyard of this important Pharisee's house.

The Servant comes and gives Jesus and Simon some food to eat and pours wine into their cups and then moves away.

Narrator 3: A woman enters and approaches Jesus.

Narrator 4: She starts to weep over Jesus' feet.

Narrator 1: Then she wipes his feet with her hair.

Narrator 3: Kissed them.

Narrator 4: And poured a perfume on to them, which was sweet smelling.

Narrator 2: When Simon saw this, he thought:

Simon: If this Jesus is a prophet of God then he would know how sinful this woman was and not let her touch him.

Narrator 2: Jesus as if he had heard Simon's thoughts said:

Jesus: Simon, I want to tell you a short story. There were 2 people.

On the other side we see 3 people.

As the Narrator introduces them each person comes in holding up their amount on a large piece of thin card and then sits opposite the property owner.

Narrator 1: There were 2 people who were buying their houses from a property owner. One had paid off most of their loan and only owed £4,000, but the other still owed all the value of their home £100,000.

Narrator 5: Both people lost their jobs and neither could pay the property owner the outstanding amount.

Narrator 4: The Property owner felt sorry for these two people and did not want them to lose their homes so being a kind and generous man he decided to cancel both of their loan debts.

The Property owner takes the £4,000 card moves to centre stage and tears it in half and then gives it back to the person, then he takes the £100,000 card and does exactly the same, then he sits down again.

Jesus: Now, Simon, which one will love him more.

Simon: I suppose the one who had the bigger debt cancelled.

Jesus: You have judged correctly.

Narrator 2: Jesus turned to the woman and said to Simon.

Jesus: Do you see this woman? I came to your house. No water or towel was provided to wash my feet.

Narrator 1: The woman had wet Jesus' feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

Narrator 3: She had kissed Jesus' feet.

Narrator 4: She had rubbed perfume on to Jesus' feet.

Jesus: I tell you, Simon, her many sins have been forgiven, for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little.

Narrator 2: Then Jesus said to the woman:

Jesus: Your sins are forgiven.

The woman gets up and dances around the room full of joy.

Narrator 5: Simon's friends started to question who this man, Jesus, really was.

We pause for a few seconds and then Narrators 1 & 3 move to the centre to say their final words.

Narrator 1: Jesus set us an example in his life - of love and forgiveness.

Narrator 3: He expects us to do the same.