

SMALL GROUP Q'S

The Parable of the Two Debtors

October 18, 2015

Luke 7:36-50

- 1.) Some have suggested that our society is a “culture of debt.” Why do you think we have become so accustomed to it or so easily able to ignore it, both corporately and individually?
- 2.) Reid said that debt must be absorbed, not merely ignored. How do we see that in the parable? How do we see it in the work of Christ?
- 3.) How does the reality in Question 2 make forgiveness hard for us? Whose debt against you are you struggling to absorb, and what would it look like to forgive?
- 4.) Do you feel like you approach life from a “God owes me something” or an “I owe everything to God” perspective. Jesus suggests that you will be able to tell the difference by how much you love. What does your life show?
- 5.) Where are you showing or could you show love to someone in a way that would be costly to you, as loving Jesus was costly to the woman in the story?
- 6.) Do you tend to see yourself as the “sinner” in the passage or as someone more like Simon? Either way, what then are the implications of Jesus’ challenge for you? Have you caught a glimpse of your spiritual debt to God? Are you worshipping/loving him in a way commensurate with the debt you’ve been forgiven?
- 7.) BONUS: Some argue that Jesus never claimed divinity – that he didn’t see himself as God but rather as a human teacher/spokesman for God. How does this passage reveal one of many evidences that Jesus must have viewed himself as God?

HINT: Recall Reid’s point about who is able to forgive a debt. Recall Luke 5:20-21 to affirm clear Jewish understanding of who could forgive sins.



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