

Sunday, May 3 2009–Oaklands Chapel–Assignment

Lesson 23 “A Tale of Two Sinners” Luke 7:36-50

1. Read verses 36-50. Through this story Luke continues to paint a picture of Jesus as a Prophet with divine authority who receives sinners and forgives them. Compare verse 36 with Luke 11:37 and 14:1. Talk about the reality that Jesus seemed to have many harsh words for these Pharisees and yet spent time eating with them in their homes. What challenge should we receive from His example?
2. How does verse 39 reveal to us what the Pharisees understood the role of a prophet to be? How does Jesus break the stereotype?
3. How does the parable in 41-42 illustrate the heart of Jesus’ teaching point? Talk about the difference in the amount of love shown toward Jesus by the woman in contrast with the lack of love shown by Simon. How does this bring to life the earlier comments by Jesus about the important values in the Kingdom of God (eg. 6:27-38)?
4. Talk about some specific ways in which we ought to be challenged in our own thinking by this story:
 - a. Do we live out our faith by keeping rules (doing ‘Christian’ things) or by lavishing love on Jesus? What does it look like in your life to lavish love on Jesus?
 - b. How do we do at being like Jesus in the context of ‘receiving sinners’? How can we at Oaklands be a more welcoming place for sinners? Talk and pray about some specific ideas and then share them with the Leadership Team as the Lord leads you.