

April 24 | Sunday
The God of Second Chances:
“The Prostitutes in Jesus’ Life”



25 | Mon – Jesus loves ‘sinners’ | Read [Matthew 21:28-32](#); [Luke 15:1-2](#)

Jesus tells the story of two sons, one who said ‘yes’ but didn’t follow through, while the other said ‘no’ but had a change of heart. He spoke to the religious people of his day who believed they were holy but did not obey God’s command to love others. Jesus said that sinners and prostitutes, who believed and obeyed, were more open to spiritual change than religious people. Which son do you identify most with?

26 | Tue – ‘Fallen Women’ in Jesus’ Family Tree | Read [Matthew 1:3-6](#)

Most genealogies listed only male ancestors, yet Matthew purposely included women in Jesus’ family tree. At least three had a history of immoral behavior: Tamar (Gen. 38), Rahab (Josh. 2; 6:22-25), and Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11-12). Why do you think he did? Was it to remind us of God’s grace and compassion? How do you reacted when encountering someone you consider to be a sinner, based on their lifestyle or behavior?

27 | Wed – Unexpected interruption | Read [Luke 7:36-38](#)

Women identified as sinners in Jesus’ day were almost always prostitutes. Jesus was a dinner guest at the home of Simon, a Pharisee. Imagine a woman, identified by Simon as a sinner, entering uninvited into this ‘holy’ home, ignoring the other guests, weeping over Jesus’ feet, wiping them with her unbound hair (a sign of immodesty), pouring expensive perfume on them. Outrageous! Except to Jesus who saw her repentant heart. She was not afraid to acknowledge her need of Jesus in front of others. What about us?

28 | Thu – Matters of the heart | Read [Luke 7:39-43](#)

Simon’s religious training most likely taught him that good people keep their distance from sinners. He saw this woman as one who did not deserve any attention or respect, let alone love. Jesus’ story of the moneylender was specifically directed to Simon, challenging his attitude. Spend a little time with verse 40. Is Jesus saying something to you?

29 | Fri – Actions speak loudly | Read [Luke 7:44-50](#)

In verses 44-46, Jesus pointedly compared Simon’s pious holy front with the sinner’s behavior. Simon did not even treat an invited guest with the basic courtesies of the day while the woman he despised went far beyond what was expected. In the end, she was the one who received forgiveness. Do you think the way we treat others could be the true measure of our ‘righteousness’?

30 | Sat – Stones | Read [John 8:3-11](#)

John makes clear that this was a set-up by Jesus’ enemies to trap Him. The woman was most likely a prostitute they had hired to catch ‘in the act’ and her missing partner was probably an accomplice to the plan. Jesus would not play the game, instead focusing attention on who was qualified to judge. Ask God to help you recognize when you are being tempted to throw stones.

May 1 | Sun – The God of Second Chances: Rich Guys Who Got It Wrong

