



PEARLSIDE  
CHURCH

## Small Group Discussion Guide For the week of May 12 - May 18, 2024

### **Main Thought and Scriptures:**

Jesus offers forgiveness and freedom to anyone, no matter how shameful our past. The first person to see Jesus resurrected and proclaim the Gospel was a woman named Mary Magdalene, whom Jesus previously cast out seven demons from. Jesus loves to redeem broken lives and exchanges our pain for peace. How do we experience freedom from our past? Another woman with a shame-filled past experienced freedom as she sought after and pursued Jesus despite the obstacles and objections of others. Jesus offers us the same forgiveness and freedom when we do likewise.

### **When we pursue Jesus, He leads us on a path toward healing and freedom.**

*“A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee’s house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. 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.” (Luke 7:37-38 NIV)*

### **Jesus is in the business of redeeming us from the pain of our past.**

*“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.’<sup>40</sup> Jesus answered him, ‘Simon, I have something to tell you.’ ‘Tell me, teacher,’ he said. <sup>41</sup>‘Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup>Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?’ <sup>43</sup>Simon replied, ‘I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.’ ‘You have judged correctly,’ Jesus said. <sup>44</sup>Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. <sup>45</sup>You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup>You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet.’” (Luke 7:39-46 NIV)*

### **Jesus offers us healing and peace.**

*“Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.’<sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven.’<sup>49</sup> The other guests began to say among themselves, ‘Who is this who even forgives sins?’<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to the woman, ‘Your faith has saved you; go in peace.’” (Luke 7:47-50 NIV)*



**Discussion Questions:**

- What stands out to you from the above main thought, scriptures and from this past weekend's sermon?
- Share about a time you experienced God's healing and forgiveness over a specific area of your life. What was the process you took to experience this?
- Are there any current areas in your life in which you struggle to find peace? What practical steps can you take to pursue Jesus for His help in this area?

**Prayer points:**

- Reflect on what Jesus has freed you from, and then enter into prayer by first giving Him thanks for healing and freedom in these areas.
- Pray for one another to pursue Jesus with any current areas of pain and shame. Pray for healing and peace to come over these areas.

**Memory Verse Challenge:**

Challenge yourself to memorize this verse by reciting and praying it every day before bed, when you wake up, and at any time throughout the day.

*"Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little." (Luke 7:47 NIV)*