

CELL GROUP DISCUSSION STARTERS

OPENING QUESTION

1. Do you have a relatively ordinary salvation story (I use those words very carefully because salvation is always a **MIRACLE**) or a Damascus-road kind of salvation story. Get two people to share their stories – one from each ‘camp’.

CONTENT EXPLANATION

Read Luke 7:36-50

2. What was Simon expected to do as a host?
3. How did the sinful woman do all these things (and more)?
4. What does this tell you about Simon’s and the sinful woman heart?
5. The parable: why is it not good enough to know the right answers?

CONTENT APPLICATION

6. A desire to be holy is good, but separation from the world is bad. How should Christians manage this tension?
7. Discuss a couple of topical issues for Christians nowadays: Halloween, drinking alcohol, smoking.
Leader: be sure to separate between tradition and Biblical imperative. Also draw out the point that an overemphasis on ‘Christian moral behaviour’ from the Christian sends the incorrect message that God saves people who are morally good!
8. Why is it important that we do not cut off relationships with non-Christians?
Hint: light shining in darkness
9. What does Jesus’ parable mean and how does the sinful woman’s life illustrate it?
10. Why is it difficult for Simon (or the church-goody-two-shoes) to grasp what Jesus is saying?
11. Some churches overemphasise Damascus-road kind of salvations. Why is this unhelpful?
12. If you are languishing in the doldrums of the Christian life perhaps it is because you ‘love little because you think you were ‘forgiven little’. How can this passage reignite your love?