

Discussion Guide

"Which Seat Am I in?"

Pastor Daniel Floyd

Starter Have you ever been in a situation where two people experienced the exact same thing but walked away with completely different perspectives? Maybe it was a family disagreement, a movie, a restaurant, or a misunderstanding. Share what happened and why you think each person saw the situation so differently.

Sermon Summary

How we see others reveals how deeply we understand the grace we've received. Through the contrasting perspectives of a judgmental Pharisee, a grateful woman, and a compassionate Jesus, Pastor Daniel challenges us to examine our hearts, embrace God's extravagant grace, and see others not by their past or failures but through the eyes of Jesus.

ACT

As you absorb sermons, read, or participate in group discussion, take notes and make a plan to apply what God's teaching you.

A (Action): Mark important ideas with an **"A"** to remind you to take action.
C (Contemplate): Use a **"C"** to mark ideas you want to process further.
T (Transfer/Teach): If it's something you need to teach to someone else, note it with a **"T."**

Read

What do these Scriptures teach you about God's character? (Read some or all verses together.)

Luke 7:36–50 Matthew 11:28 Romans 12:1–2 Luke 10:25–37

Discuss

Choose questions to keep the discussion moving. There's no need to discuss every question.

1. Pastor Daniel described three perspectives in this story: the view from the head of the table, the view from the floor, and the view from Jesus' seat. Which perspective do you most identify with right now, and why?
2. Simon had Jesus sitting at his table but failed to recognize how much he needed Him. How can we become so familiar with church, worship, and Scripture that we lose our wonder and affection for Jesus?
3. The woman pushed past shame, fear, and rejection to come to Jesus. What voices or barriers can keep people from approaching God, and how can we help others overcome them?

4. Jesus saw the woman beyond her reputation and past. What makes it difficult for us to see people the way Jesus sees them, especially those whose choices or lifestyles differ from our own?
5. Pastor Daniel said, "When you encounter the grace of God like that, your gratitude can no longer be polite." What does extravagant gratitude look like in everyday life beyond singing and worship services?

Go Deeper

1. Study Luke 19:1–10 (Zacchaeus). How does knowing that Jesus sees our potential, rather than defining us by our past, change the way we approach people others might reject?
2. Study Genesis 45:1–15; 50:15–21 (Joseph forgives his brothers). What would it look like to extend grace to someone who has hurt you, even when they haven't earned your forgiveness?
3. Study 2 Samuel 9:1–13 (David shows kindness to Mephibosheth). Who in your life might feel forgotten, overlooked, or unworthy of belonging, and how could you extend the kindness of Jesus to them?
4. Study Acts 9:1–22 (Paul's conversion). Is there someone you have quietly written off as too far from God? How does Paul's story challenge your perspective?

Apply

1. Take time to reflect on where you were before encountering Jesus. Let gratitude for His forgiveness renew your love and affection for Him.
2. Pay attention to moments when you judge, criticize, or distance yourself from others. Ask God to reveal any pride or self-righteousness that has taken root in your heart.
3. Intentionally welcome someone who may feel overlooked, rejected, or out of place. Look beyond their reputation and offer the same grace and kindness Jesus has shown you.

Pray

Here are some prayer points:

1. Ask Jesus to remind you of the grace He extended to you and for your heart to stay tender toward Him so you never lose the wonder of what He's done in your life.
2. Pray for the Lord to reveal any pride, criticism, or self-righteousness in your heart. Ask Him to help you recognize your need for grace before you judge someone else's failures.
3. Ask the Father to give you a heart of compassion for those who feel rejected, forgotten, or defined by their past and to help you see their value and treat them with dignity, mercy, and love.
4. Pray for your gratitude to go beyond words and songs—to surrender every part of your life to the Lord and live in a way that reflects His goodness and grace.

Leadership Tip

This sermon touches on shame, past mistakes, religious judgment, and the need for forgiveness. Some group members may personally identify with the woman in the story, while others may recognize Simon's tendency to judge. Make it clear that this is a safe place to be honest without fear of condemnation. Avoid putting anyone on the spot to share personal struggles. Instead, model vulnerability by acknowledging that we all need grace and continually need Jesus to shape how we see others. The goal isn't to help people identify who the Pharisees are in their lives, but to invite them to examine their own hearts and become more like Jesus.