VJ2: Passionate Devotion

Intro: Matthew 7:36-50  Pg 731
Continue our series on Lordship: Unpack 6 Parts: 4 + 1 Obedience, Sacrifice, Repentance, Faith  Today: Devotion
Devotion = A love for God that is so real that everything else fades into the background
Devotion = A love for God that puts everything else into perspective, allows us to truly focus on Him
Devotion = What God was talking about when He said, love the Lord your God with All you heart, all you soul, all your mind, and all your strength.

Background:
Understand the Culture
Hair  People in Banquet  Kissing Feet  Washing Feet  Anointing Hair
Understand the Context  Mt 11:28-30 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”
Understand People in the Story, and Each of them Was Devoted to Someone  4 Observations About Each Person

1. The Woman:: Was Devoted To Jesus  Vs 36-38
   • She Saw: Only Jesus
     (Not the people, rolling eyes, horrified looks, disgust, )
   • She Judged: Only Herself
     Vs 38: Tears  (Imagine: shunned, ostracized, left out, looked down upon, used, disregarded, shouldn’t be there!)
   • Loved: Jesus, With All her heart
     Vs 38: Wet with tears, (repentance)  Wiped with Hair (humility), Anoint with Perfume (Giving valuable gift, personal)
   • Knew About Forgiveness
     Vs 37: Sinful life= Life Characterized by sin, Devoted to sin, More than behavior, Reputation and Character

2. Simon The Pharisee: Was Devoted to Himself  Vs 39
   • He Saw: On the outside: Not what was real! Didn’t see clearly!
     ~Jesus: This fellow!
     ~Vs 40: Woman: Jesus Asked: Simon do you see her?
       Woman  What kind of woman she is! Sinner, Dirty, Unclean,
       (Holy, Pure, Righteous)
       ~Himself: Righteous and Upstanding:
       Wicked, Unforgiven
   • He Judged: Judged Incorrectly! Got Story Right…Real life WRONG!
     ~Jesus: Not a prophet, not from God
     ~Woman: Sinner
     ~Himself: Forgiven! Capable of passing judgment on this man Jesus!
   • Loved:
     ~Not God: John 8:42  If you loved the Father, love me!
     ~Not Jesus! Despised Him!
     ~Not woman! “Love the lord you God w/all heart…soul…mind…strength…Love NEIGHBOR as yourself!
     ~Simon Only loved Himself! And his righteousness
   • Knew About Forgiveness: NOTHING!
     All of the OT Law…was about forgivenss!
     Sacrifices were all about, Offering were all about, Laws were all about…Simon knew Law…Didn’t know God
     Scathing Condemnation by Jesus  Vs 47: Her many sins forgiven…loves much…Love little forgiven little! YOU!

3. Jesus: Was Devoted To Them Both.  Vs 41-50
   • Saw: Simon’s heart  (3X did not)  Woman’s Devotion (3X kissing, pouring, wiping)
   • Judged: Correctly and both Counts…Simon and the woman  (Heart, not Appearance!)
   • Loved: Both of them: (While we were yet sinners!)
   • Forgiveness: Everything…Those who do not deserve it (Woman, Forgiven…Simon.........................)

CONCLUSION: Want to be like the woman…All too often like Simon: Lordship: Devotion
“The number one thing that shuts a man off from God is self-sufficiency. (Barclay)
   • Help me see MYSELF more clearly
   • Help me Judge OTHERS more correctly
   • Help me Love you Unconditionally
   • Help me Receive your Forgiveness Completely
If you see this…and it doesn’t resonate with you….Then you may be a little like Simon: Know Religion, Don’t know God!