FOOTSTEPS What it Really Means to Follow Jesus

JESUS CHURCH

Luke 7:36-8:2 Jeff Schreve

And He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven ... Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Luke 7:48, 50

Q. What does God want our church to be?

A. A church that follows in the footsteps of Jesus.

1. A Jesus Church is filled with <u>love</u>.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4:7-8

- A. Sinners feel welcome.
- B. Sinners feel wanted.

* There is not a <u>spirit of Simon</u>. And He also told this parable to certain ones who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt. Luke 18:9

2. A Jesus Church is brimming with hope.

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

A. There is hope no matter how <u>badly you have messed up</u>. And He said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven." Luke 7:48

* The key requirement is <u>repentance</u>.

B. There is hope no matter how <u>bleak your future seems</u>. *He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. Isaiah 61:3 NLT*

3. A Jesus Church is experiencing life-change.

A. You are blown away by His <u>love and grace for you</u>. For this reason I say to you, her sins which are many have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little. Luke 7:47

B. You are filled with <u>peace and joy in believing</u>. And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Luke 7:50

C. You are no longer the same.

* The key ingredient is <u>discipleship</u>.

God is calling our church to be a Jesus church. Who's in?