4-GIVEN

There's a woman in the Bible. The Bible says she was a 'lady of the night', a sinful and immoral woman, a prostitute. However, she had an encounter that changed her life forever. After having her heart arrested by Jesus, she is never the same and she becomes known for eternity for her extravagant worship of Jesus.

She was noticed by men, but she was *seen* by Jesus. She was used by men, but saved by Jesus. And because of her extravagant worship, she was forgiven much. In fact, Jesus tells a parable in answer to the complaint from Simeon, the owner of the home in which Jesus was a dinner guest. (Simeon did not like that Jesus would allow this immoral woman to enter into the dinner party and anoint Him with her tears and her expensive *parfum*.)

Jesus then shares a lesson, asking Simeon who would likely be more grateful for grace: someone whose larger debt is let go or someone with a lesser debt. Simeon responds with his opinion, 'Why, I imagine the person who is forgiven a greater debt would be more thankful than one who has been forgiven a smaller debt.' (Luke 7)

My worship of Jesus to some may seem excessive; my need for Him to some may seem extreme. Let me be clear: I cannot breathe apart from Him. My heart beats for Him; every broken piece within me, I safely entrust to Him. Today, my dependence on Jesus is endless. He is my utmost desire. I am outrageously in love with Him because He has proven Himself time and again, faithful and extraordinary to this child. His extravagant love for me motivates me to be a better person; His grace for me persuades me to pursue Him at all costs; His faithfulness causes my bar for myself to be placed higher. See, for whom is forgiven much, much is required. He has forgiven me for so much that I too, another sinful woman, cannot help myself but to worship Him with abandon and extravagance. And I believe wholeheartedly that it is impossible to truly encounter Jesus and not be completely changed and transformed.

Luke 12:48b, 'From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.'