

## Lesson 7

## Luke 7

## Humility, Compassion & Forgiveness

**Note:** *A centurion is a Roman officer in command of 100 soldiers. The centurion in this story seems to understand Jewish cultural sensibilities, aware that Jews are discouraged from entering Gentile homes.*

1. How would you describe the personal traits of the centurion? (Luke 7:2-10)
2. On the way to the centurion's house, Jesus was greeted by some of the centurion's friends.
  - a. What did the friends say to Jesus? (Luke 7:6-7)
  - b. Where in the Mass does the congregation use words like the friends used?
3. What was Jesus' opinion of the centurion? (Luke 7:9)

**Note:** *The following three scenes in Luke 7:11-50 are unique to Luke's gospel and are likely aimed at his specific audience of pagan converts.*

4. Why do you think Jesus showed such compassion to the mother of the deceased man? (Luke 7:12-13)
5. After Jesus raised the man from the dead, how did people regard Jesus? (Luke 7:16-17)
6. John the Baptist sent some of his disciples to ask Jesus an important question.
  - a. What was the important question? (Luke 7:19)
  - b. How did Jesus respond to their question? (Luke 7:22-23)
7. How did Jesus describe John the Baptist? (Luke 7:26-30; CCC719)
8. Both John the Baptist and Jesus were criticized by the Jewish leaders.
  - a. What was the criticism leveled against John? (Luke 7:33)
  - b. What was the criticism leveled against Jesus? (Luke 7:34)
  - c. What do we criticize about Jesus today?

**Note:** *Three times Jesus dines with a Pharisee in Luke 7:36; 11:37; 14:1. People customarily reclined on low couches near the floor to eat festal and ritual meals. They leaned upon a cushion on their left side and ate with their right hand. This explains how the woman stood at Jesus' feet while also standing behind him.*

9. In Jewish custom at the time of Jesus, if a famous person came to dine at your house, you were to show your guest three forms of courtesy. What are the three acts of courtesy the "sinful woman" offered Jesus that Simon the Pharisee did not? (Luke 7:44-46)
10. How did Jesus treat the "sinful woman"? (Luke 7:47-50)

***If you would like a challenge?***

11. Why did Jesus consider John the Baptist the greatest of "those born of women"? How does the Catechism expand upon this understanding? (CCC 719)