



Dear Crossroads Family,

In their book, *Made to Stick*, brothers Dan and Chip Heath tell about how a doctor got his hospital staff to practice proper hand-washing techniques. One day, a group of doctors and administrators were taken by surprise when, after lunch, the hospital's epidemiologist asked them to press their hands into an agar plate, a sterile Petri dish containing a growth medium. The agar plates were sent to the lab to be cultured and photographed. The photos revealed what was previously unseen: The doctors' hands were covered with bacteria. Seeing it blown up and made visible to the naked eye was revolting. One of the nastiest images was made into a screensaver for the hospital's network of computers so that everyone on staff could be reminded of the danger of not washing their hands every time they looked at their computer screen.

Suddenly, hand-hygiene compliance rose to nearly 100 % and stayed there.

Just like those doctors and that hospital staff, if we as believers could see the revolting, disgusting sin in our lives, our behavior would change too.

We would confess more (1 John 1:9—*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*).

We would pray more (1 Thess. 5:19—*Pray continually.*).

We would judge less (Matt. 7:1—*Do not judge, or you too will be judged.*).

We would forgive more (Col. 3:13—*Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*).

We would serve one another, putting others first more (Phil. 2:3-4—*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.*)

This coming Sunday's Bible study and sermon will function (hopefully) like the photograph made into a screensaver in the story about the hospital (Sermon notes are provided below). We each will be reminded of just how sinful we naturally are and just how forgiving and gracious our God is who sent Jesus to pay the tremendous sin debt we each owe. Maybe after Sunday, we will all be able to honestly say with the Apostle Paul, "*Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the worst.* (1 Tim. 1:15).

Sunday will be a great day of Bible study, worship, and growing in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. I can't wait. Hope to see you there!

Love,
Bro. Doug

PS. There will be no Wednesday night meal, Bible study, and prayer time next Wednesday, June 17. Next week is Vacation Bible School and the Fellowship Hall and many other areas of the church we be set up to serve the many children who will be participating in VBS. Pray all week for a wonderful VBS.

Why and How to Crash a Party

Luke 7:36-48

An attitude of superiority, masked as _____, can infect each of us. We see it in Luke 7:36-48. By this time in His ministry, the Pharisees had given Jesus every reason to dislike and _____ them. Accepting this dinner invitation is a sign of Jesus's _____ attitude toward those who disapproved of Him.

Simon's self-righteous, superior attitude is clear. He is blind to his own spiritual _____. Jesus exposes this with the parable of the two debtors: the one forgiven more loves more. The woman knows her deep need for _____; Simon doesn't think he _____.

Simon offered no defense for not offering Jesus any of the things a guest would expect from his host. These omissions were a sign that, though Jesus had been _____, He wasn't truly _____. To Simon, Jesus was an _____. Simon thinks he is the superior patron hosting a traveling teacher. In reality, God's purpose walked right through his door, offering Him a seat at the _____ of the _____. Yet, with his attitude of superiority, he completely misses the moment of _____. He holds himself aloof from Jesus, while the "sinful woman" crashes the party, touches the prophet, and walks away _____.

Simon and people like him, _____ and then _____ their love and service to those they see as _____ and beneath them because they believe they have been forgiven little. The woman and people like her, love and serve others because they understand they have been forgiven much—so much that they could _____. This episode asks a single question: Who is able to _____ God at work and _____ Him in gracious, loving ministry?

If we aren't careful, like Simon we can forget our massive _____ and develop a deeply rooted attitude of _____. So, whose attitude do you exhibit?

An attitude like Simon's brings _____ and even _____.

An attitude like the woman's brings _____ and _____.

A Few Reminders:

VBS Missions Project 2026: We invite you to pray and give a donation to help buy Children's Bibles for needy families to be distributed by Buckner Family Center on Marbach West of Loop 410. Contributions are requested from Crossroads members and VBS families. Please designate your donation to VBS Missions Project 2026.

The Sunday Night Service is on break for the summer. It will resume on August 16, the Sunday after school begins.

Dr. Doug Diehl
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