



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 12: Loved

Suggested Week of Use: February 21, 2021

Core Passage: Luke 7:40-50

News Story Summary

Cathlyn Jones and Michael Davis sat on the same aisle of a flight from New York’s LaGuardia airport to Dallas’ Love Field, with a pastor named Bonny Andrews sitting in between them. The trio talked the entire flight home, with topics ranging from food to faith. The three even prayed together before the end of the flight. Both texted a family member after getting off the flight that they believed they had just met their future spouse. A few weeks later, Cathlyn and Michael went on their first date. Eventually, Michael proposed—inside a Southwest Airlines plane at Dallas’ Frontiers of Flight Museum, which sits on the edge of Love Field. They married late last year. The pastor, Bonny Andrews officiated the ceremony.

For more about this story, search “couple falls in love on flight to Love airport”.

Focus Attention

To replace the Focus Attention, invite volunteers to share ways a person might know they are “falling in love.” If the group is made up of married people, invite them to share how they met and when they knew their relationship was headed toward marriage. Tell the story of the couple meeting on a flight to Love Field who ultimately married. Point out that both indicated they thought they had met their future spouse after getting off the plane. Ask: *What actions might make a person feel loved?* Highlight any responses to relate to being forgiven or gaining a second chance. Transition by explained that Jesus demonstrated God’s love by the way he responded to a woman who humbly poured perfume on Jesus’ feet. Challenge the group to consider ways of demonstrating love to God in response to the love He shows us.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, recall the story of the couple that met on the flight to Love Field. Lead the group to identify the similarities between romantic love and love for God. Then call on the group to list the differences. Point out that one reason we love God is because He first loved us by sending His Son so we could be forgiven of our sin. Allow a few moments for the group to reflect on God’s forgiveness and how different their lives might be if they had never heard of or responded to God’s love. Review the summary statements under Apply the Text, leading the group to note the role God’s love plays in each statement. Review the memory verse, following the suggestions as written under Summarize and Challenge to complete the step.