

What does the parable of the two debtors teach?

1. Everyone has sinned against God. (v.41)

Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii and the other fifty.

As the Scriptures say: There is no one without sin. None!
Romans 3:10 (ICB)

If we say we have no sin [refusing to admit that we are sinners], we delude and lead ourselves astray...
1 John 1:8 (AMP)

2. Everyone is spiritually bankrupt before God. (v.42a)

Neither of them had the money to pay him back...

For all have sinned and are made destitute of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23 (JUB)

- Destitute means: **Penniless** and **broke**.

We can never redeem ourselves; we cannot pay God the price for our lives,⁸ because the payment for a human life is too great. What we could pay would never be enough.
Psalms 49:7-8 (CEV)

O LORD, pardon my iniquity; for it is great.
Psalms 25:11 (KJV)

3. Everyone can be forgiven by God. (v.42b)

... so he forgave the debts of both.

When we were unable to help ourselves, at the right time, Christ died for us...
Romans 5:6 (NCV)

4. Everyone's response to God's mercy, matters. (v.42b, 43)

"...Now which of them will love him more?"⁴³ Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair."⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet.⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet.⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

Luke 7:44-47 (NIV)

She was forgiven many, many sins, and so she is very, very grateful. If the forgiveness is minimal, the gratitude is minimal.
Luke 7:47 (MSG)

We love Him, because He first loved us.
1 John 4:19 (KJ21)