

Love and the Transformation of Business

Karen Blakeley argues that love is the only solution to the current increasing trend by big corporations of instrumentalising human beings as being simply costs or resources. She rejects empathy and compassion as being implicitly negative or selfish. She begins by suggesting that we need to ‘see’ the employee in the way Christ asked Simon the Pharisee to ‘see’ the woman who bathed his feet.

Luke’s Gospel, chapter 7.36–50, sets the scene for understanding how love could transform business ethic and practice. Jesus has just been invited

to dinner with Simon, a Pharisee. As they both recline at the table, a woman enters, a prostitute who has lived a ‘sinful life’. She enters in

distress but approaches Jesus, wiping his feet with her hair and bending down to kiss them. Eventually she pours perfume from an alabaster jar



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