

THE GOSPEL OF
LUKE

JESUS: THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD

PART 3: THE REJECTION OF THE SAVIOR

STUDY GUIDE

THE GOSPEL OF
LUKE

JESUS: THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD



citadelsquare.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2	LUKE 14:25-35	54
INTRODUCTION	3	LUKE 15:1-10	56
LUKE 9:51-56	6	LUKE 15:11-32	58
LUKE 9:57-62	8	LUKE 16:1-13	60
LUKE 10:1-16	10	LUKE 16:14-18	62
LUKE 10:17-24	12	LUKE 16:19-31	64
LUKE 10:25-37	14	LUKE 17:1-10	66
LUKE 10:38-42	16	LUKE 17:11-19	68
LUKE 11:1-4	18	LUKE 17:20-37	70
LUKE 11:5-13	20	LUKE 18:1-8	72
LUKE 11:14-23	22	LUKE 18:9-14	74
LUKE 11:24-28	24	LUKE 18:15-17	76
LUKE 11:29-36	26	LUKE 18:18-30	78
LUKE 11:37-54	28	LUKE 18:31-34	80
LUKE 12:1-12	30	LUKE 18:35-43	82
LUKE 12:13-21	32	LUKE 19:1-10	84
LUKE 12:22-34	34	LUKE 19:11-27	86
LUKE 12:35-48	36	REFERENCES	88
LUKE 12:49-59	38		
LUKE 13:1-9	40		
LUKE 13:10-17	42		
LUKE 13:18-21	44		
LUKE 13:22-30	46		
LUKE 13:31-35	48		
LUKE 14:1-14	50		
LUKE 14:15-24	52		

INTRODUCTION

AUTHOR

The Gospel of Luke does not provide the name of its author, but there is strong evidence that points to Luke. Luke was a physician and a companion of Paul. He was also the author of the book of Acts. Luke was likely a Gentile convert, as we can see from his Greek name and his emphasis on the Gentiles receiving access to the promises of God. He writes from the perspective of a historian and theologian, collecting eyewitness testimonies in order to provide an “orderly account” (Luke 1:4) of the life of Jesus.¹

AUDIENCE

The Gospel is addressed to Theophilus (Luke 1:4). From what we can gather, he is a person of high social standing who served as a patron, or supporter, of Luke's desire to put together an orderly account of Jesus' life. We do not know where he lived or his nationality, but it is likely that he has had some exposure to the faith. The fact that he needs reassurance points to him being a believer. It is also clear by the way Luke wrote that he knew Theophilus would not be the only reader of this Gospel.²

GENRE

A Gospel is a unique genre because it is both a theology and a history. Its purpose is to instruct and to exhort. It is not an exhaustive account of an individual's life, but it is an account that is ordered and presented with a particular purpose. In Luke's Gospel account, he is focused on how Jesus came to be understood as the risen, exalted King and how the Jewish rejection of Jesus takes place and gives way to Gentile inclusion.³

DATE

There is strong evidence that Luke and Acts were both written in the early 60s of the 1st century.⁴

PURPOSE

There seems to be a few purposes behind Luke's desire to write this Gospel⁵:

- 1. To Provide Certainty:** Luke sets out to compile a trustworthy and orderly account of Jesus' life in order to assure his readers of the certainty of what they have been taught (Luke 1:1-4).

INTRODUCTION (*continued*)

- 2. To Explain the Jewish Rejection of Jesus and the Gentile Inclusion into the Kingdom of God:** Luke seeks to explain that the inclusion of Gentiles into God's covenant promises is in line with God's plan from the beginning and that Christianity is not a new religion but rather it is the fulfillment of the religion of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. This emphasis on Gentile inclusion is what makes this Gospel account unique from the others. Luke's overarching purpose is to help his readers understand that the gospel is for all, both Jews and Gentiles.
- 3. To Provide Clarity on the End Times:** Luke seeks to clarify that Jesus did not teach that His return would come immediately but that there would be a time between His resurrection and His return. As a result, much of Luke's Gospel deals with the reality of suffering and rejection that His followers would experience as they await the return of Jesus.

STRUCTURE⁶

Part 1: *The Coming of the Savior (Luke 1-4:13)*

In this section Luke presents us with the unique births of Jesus and John the Baptist and their maturity into adults. John the Baptist serves as the forerunner to the ministry of Jesus, and he preaches a message of repentance. Repentance involves recognizing sin and then turning to God and serving others. His ministry of repentance sets the stage and points to Jesus as the one to whom humanity must look in repentance.

Part 2: *The Ministry of the Savior (Luke 4:14-9:50)*

In this section Luke seeks to answer the question: "Who is Jesus?" by highlighting the activity and power that Jesus displays while ministering in Galilee. Jesus' ministry reveals that He has power over nature, demons, diseases, and even death. The authority Jesus displays and the claims Jesus makes during this movement within Luke begin to provide the backdrop for the Jewish opposition to Him.

Part 3: *The Rejection of the Savior (Luke 9:51-19:27)*

In this third movement within the Gospel, Luke gives a lot of time to Jesus' teaching on discipleship and the increased opposition that Jesus receives from the Jewish leadership. Jesus, knowing that His journey ends in crucifixion, is focused on training His disciples for life after His death. In the face of Jewish persecution and opposition,

Jesus trains His disciples to persevere in the midst of suffering and rejection. The rejection and suffering that Jesus experiences by the hands of the Jewish leaders is all part of God's divine plan.

Part 4: *The Vindication of the Savior (Luke 19:28-24:53)*

This last section details Jesus' last days in Jerusalem. It includes His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, His sacrificial death, and His victorious resurrection. Jesus' death as an innocent man and His resurrection all point to the realization that He is the promised Messiah.

LUKE 9:51-56

PASSAGE

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. **52** And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. **53** But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. **54** And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" **55** But he turned and rebuked them. **56** And they went on to another village. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you typically respond to rejection?
2. What are some reasons why people reject Jesus?
3. How should the church respond to those who reject Jesus and His message?
4. Are you tempted to become angry at those who reject Jesus? What dangers are present when a church or an individual becomes angry at a community for not accepting Jesus?

NOTES



LUKE 9:57-62

PASSAGE

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” **58** And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” **59** To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” **60** And Jesus said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” **61** Yet another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” **62** Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you share the gospel with others, are you hesitant to talk about the cost of following Christ? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think Jesus places a high emphasis on the cost of following Him?
3. How do you stay motivated in your pursuit of Jesus in moments when it feels particularly costly?
4. What areas in your life are you tempted to prioritize more than following Jesus?

NOTES

LUKE 10:1-16

PASSAGE

1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. **2** And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. **3** Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. **4** Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. **5** Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' **6** And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. **7** And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. **8** Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. **9** Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' **10** But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, **11** 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' **12** I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. **14** But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. **15** And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades.

16 "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about the first time you went out to evangelize. What did you learn from that experience?
2. What role does prayer play in missions? When you see a harvest that is plentiful, is your first impulse to pray? Why or why not?
3. Why is hospitality important in the context of sharing the gospel and ministering to others?
4. How would your day-to-day change if you continually saw yourself as a laborer sent into a harvest that is plentiful?

NOTES

LUKE 10:17-24

PASSAGE

17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" **18** And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. **19** Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. **20** Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

21 In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. **22** All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

23 Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! **24** For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When are you tempted to rejoice in your spiritual victories instead of rejoicing in your salvation?
2. Why do you think God chooses to reveal Himself to the humble over the worldly-wise?
3. How does a profound understanding of Jesus' sovereignty over all things impact your daily walk with Him and your relationship with God?
4. Share your personal story of how your eyes have been opened to Jesus and His presence in your life.

NOTES

LUKE 10:25-37

PASSAGE

25 And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" **26** He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" **27** And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." **28** And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

29 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. **31** Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. **32** So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. **33** But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. **34** He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. **35** And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' **36** Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" **37** He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who would you say is your "neighbor"?
2. How do you react when people with whom you disagree show others mercy or compassion?
3. Are you more likely to step in to help hurting people or set up your life to avoid people in need of compassion?
4. What are some tangible ways you can show mercy to your neighbors this week?

NOTES

LUKE 10:38-42

PASSAGE

38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. **39** And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. **40** But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." **41** But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, **42** but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the “urgent” needs of the moment that distract you from choosing the good portion of sitting with Jesus?
2. What does it practically look like to sit with Jesus during busy seasons of your life?
3. Which words best describe where you are this season with God - sitting and listening or busy and distracted? Explain.
4. How does daily time with Jesus produce eternal fruit? How have you seen it shape your life?

NOTES

LUKE 11:1-4

PASSAGE

1 Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” **2** And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.

3 Give us each day our daily bread,

4 and forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.
And lead us not into temptation.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When you realize your prayer life is not what it should be, how do you respond?
2. If you viewed God the way that Jesus does, how would this change the way you pray?
3. What does it look like to pray for God's kingdom over our own?
4. What is one request you are praying for right now that we can pray for with you?

NOTES

LUKE 11:5-13

PASSAGE

5 And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, **6** for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; **7** and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? **8** I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. **9** And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **10** For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. **11** What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; **12** or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? **13** If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you feel free to approach God boldly? Why or why not?
2. How does Jesus' commandment of persistent prayer push back against our desire for instant gratification?
3. What lies are you tempted to believe about God's character that make you hesitant to approach Him boldly and often?
4. What is one thing for which you're asking, seeking, or knocking in your relationship with God right now?

NOTES

LUKE 11:14-23

PASSAGE

14 Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. **15** But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," **16** while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. **17** But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. **18** And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. **19** And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. **20** But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. **21** When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; **22** but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. **23** Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever doubted the work of God because it was unfamiliar to you? Share an example.
2. What are some ways the devil tempts the church today to be “divided against itself”?
3. What kind of evidence is needed in a person’s life to show that he or she is with Jesus?
4. What are some areas of your life that are more characteristic of being against Jesus rather than with Him?

NOTES

LUKE 11:24-28

PASSAGE

24 “When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ **25** And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. **26** Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

27 As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!”

28 But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is there a disconnect in hearing the Word and obeying it?
2. What happens to your heart when you hear the Word of God and refuse to respond and act on it?
3. What are some practical ways that you have found helpful in applying the Sunday sermon and your own personal Bible reading into your life?
4. How might you come alongside a brother or sister and help him or her obey God's Word?

NOTES

LUKE 11:29-36

PASSAGE

29 When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, “This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. **30** For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. **31** The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here. **32** The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

33 “No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. **34** Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. **35** Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. **36** If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is there a temptation to ask God for a “sign”?
2. How does knowing that Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament promises and prophecies change the way you read and study the Bible?
3. How have you seen teaching affect your life in a negative or a positive way?
4. How do we know if we are looking at things in accordance with God’s Word or not?

NOTES



LUKE 11:37-54

PASSAGE

37 While Jesus was speaking, a Pharisee asked him to dine with him, so he went in and reclined at table. **38** The Pharisee was astonished to see that he did not first wash before dinner. **39** And the Lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. **40** You fools! Did not he who made the outside make the inside also? **41** But give as alms those things that are within, and behold, everything is clean for you.

42 “But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and neglect justice and the love of God. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. **43** Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seat in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces. **44** Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without knowing it.”

45 One of the lawyers answered him, “Teacher, in saying these things you insult us also.” **46** And he said, “Woe to you lawyers also! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers. **47** Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed. **48** So you are witnesses and you consent to the deeds of your fathers, for they killed them, and you build their tombs. **49** Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,’ **50** so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation, **51** from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation. **52** Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge. You did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering.”

53 As he went away from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press him hard and to provoke him to speak about many things, **54** lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you seen a pharisaical culture creep into the life of a church? What was the result? How do we work against a pharisaical spirit at Citadel Square?
2. Why is the temptation to focus on external metrics of holiness and not inward transformation so strong?
3. How can we pursue holiness as a church without succumbing to the dangers present in the Pharisees and scribes?
4. How would you approach a brother or sister in Christ who is demonstrating a judgmental spirit and/or hypocrisy?

LUKE 12:1-12

PASSAGE

1 In the meantime, when so many thousands of the people had gathered together that they were trampling one another, he began to say to his disciples first, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. **2** Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. **3** Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops.

4 “I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. **5** But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! **6** Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. **7** Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

8 “And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, **9** but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. **10** And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. **11** And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, **12** for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think Jesus cares deeply about hypocrisy? Where do you see hypocrisy in your own life?
2. What does a healthy fear of the Lord practically look like?
3. Do you struggle to believe that God does not care about the “little” things in your life? Why or why not?
4. Should Christians be fearful of committing the unforgivable sin?

NOTES

LUKE 12:13-21

PASSAGE

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” **14** But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” **15** And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” **16** And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, **17** and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ **18** And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. **19** And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ **20** But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ **21** So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some examples of laying up treasure for yourself and laying up treasure toward God?
2. In what situations do you notice your heart being drawn to covet?
3. How might the abundance of possessions hinder or further the kingdom of God?
4. How are you making eternal investments into others now?

NOTES

LUKE 12:22-34

PASSAGE

22 And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. **23** For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. **24** Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! **25** And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? **26** If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? **27** Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. **28** But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! **29** And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. **30** For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. **31** Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

32 "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. **33** Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. **34** For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What role has anxiety and worry played in your life?
2. What biblical truths do you remind yourself of when you are anxious or worried?
3. What does it practically look like to walk alongside and care for someone who is anxious? From your experience, what is helpful? What is not helpful?
4. How has God used anxiety and worry to shape and transform your heart?

NOTES

LUKE 12:35-48

PASSAGE

35 “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, **36** and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. **37** Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. **38** If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! **39** But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. **40** You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

41 Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?” **42** And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? **43** Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. **44** Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions. **45** But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, **46** the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful. **47** And that servant who knew his master’s will but did not get ready or act according to his will, will receive a severe beating. **48** But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating. Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What would it look like for you to live in such a way that you are ready for the unannounced return of Christ?
2. How does the promised return of Christ provide ongoing motivation for a life of faithfulness and obedience?
3. What knowledge, gifting, or blessings has God given you to steward while you wait for Christ’s return?
4. What are some things that distract you from Christ’s imminent return?

NOTES

LUKE 12:49-59

PASSAGE

49 “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! **50** I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! **51** Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. **52** For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. **53** They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

54 He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. **55** And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. **56** You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

57 “And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? **58** As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. **59** I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has the gospel brought peace into your life? Where has the gospel caused division?
2. How should Christians navigate close relationships where belief in Jesus results in relational division?
3. Why is judgment a necessary part of the gospel message?
4. What is the balance between being urgent about sharing your faith and being patient with people as they consider the gospel?

NOTES

LUKE 13:1-9

PASSAGE

1 There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. **2** And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? **3** No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. **4** Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? **5** No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

6 And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. **7** And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ **8** And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. **9** Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are any sins worse than others?
2. How can we practice repentance in our everyday lives?
3. What does it mean to “bear fruit” in the Christian life?
4. What does a lack of fruit in our lives reveal?

NOTES

LUKE 13:10-17

PASSAGE

10 Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. **11** And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. **12** When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your disability." **13** And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. **14** But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." **15** Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? **16** And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" **17** As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you seen someone continue to be faithful in the midst of suffering?
2. What are some intentional ways that we can pause and give God glory for answered prayers?
3. How have you seen a worship of tradition get in the way of showing mercy to others?
4. How can you glorify God with the way that you treat others?

NOTES

LUKE 13:18-21

PASSAGE

18 He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? **19** It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

20 And again he said, “To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? **21** It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you seen the kingdom of God breaking through in seemingly small yet significant ways?
2. How do you see evidence of God's kingdom growing today?
3. How can we practically trust that God is growing His kingdom even when it doesn't look like what we expect?
4. What does it look like to remain faithful in the small, ordinary things of life and trust God to do the extraordinary things with them?

NOTES



LUKE 13:22-30

PASSAGE

22 He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. **23** And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, **24** “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. **25** When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ **26** Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ **27** But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ **28** In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. **29** And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. **30** And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How do you reckon with the reality that the path of salvation is narrow and the people who find it are few?
2. How do we “strive” to enter the kingdom of God? How do you reconcile this with salvation being a free gift from God?
3. Why are we often tempted to associate religious activities with personally knowing Jesus? What does this misunderstanding assume about a relationship with Jesus?
4. How does Jesus’ response help you think about sharing the good news of the kingdom?

NOTES



LUKE 13:31-35

PASSAGE

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” **32** And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. **33** Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ **34** O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! **35** Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time when you faced opposition when living missionally for Christ.
2. How does the surety that God will accomplish His will affect the way you view those times of opposition?
3. What is the difference between preaching the gospel with urgency and preaching the gospel with panic?
4. What does it look like to share the gospel boldly but with a compassionate heart? What is the danger of having one without the other?

NOTES

LUKE 14:1-14

PASSAGE

1 One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. **2** And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. **3** And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" **4** But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. **5** And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" **6** And they could not reply to these things.

7 Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, **8** "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, **9** and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. **10** But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. **11** For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

12 He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. **13** But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, **14** and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some religious "laws" that might be hindering you from showing compassion like Christ?
2. Share about a time when God either humbled you after you exalted yourself or exalted you after you humbled yourself.
3. What are some practical ways you could take the "lowest place" in your home, work, or relationships this week?
4. Who are the people around you who can't repay you, and how can you invite and bless them in the coming weeks?

NOTES

LUKE 14:15-24

PASSAGE

15 When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" **16** But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' **19** And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' **20** And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' **22** And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' **23** And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'" (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some common excuses you hear about why people do not respond to the gospel?
2. How do you maintain Christ as the center of your priorities amidst a culture that begs for your attention?
3. What does the inclusive nature of the gospel teach us about God's heart?
4. What is one way in the next month you can strive to be more intentional to share about the love of Christ with someone who might be considered an outcast?

NOTES

LUKE 14:25-35

PASSAGE

25 Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, **26** “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. **27** Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. **28** For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? **29** Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, **30** saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ **31** Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? **32** And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. **33** So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

34 “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? **35** It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some things that you fear losing?
2. How has following Jesus cost you?
3. How can we appropriately communicate the cost of following Jesus to others when we share the gospel with them? Why is this important?
4. What is the danger of not counting the cost before committing to follow Jesus?

NOTES

LUKE 15:1-10

PASSAGE

1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. **2** And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

3 So he told them this parable: **4** "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? **5** And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. **6** And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' **7** Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

8 "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? **9** And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' **10** Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about someone who intentionally pursued you when you were lost.
2. How might you use your meal times as an opportunity to minister to those around you who are far from Christ?
3. What does it look like to practically pursue a Christian who is wandering away from the truth?
4. Spend some time as a group praying for people by name that you desire to see come to faith.

NOTES

LUKE 15:11-32

PASSAGE

11 And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. **12** And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. **13** Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. **14** And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. **15** So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. **16** And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! **18** I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. **19** I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' **20** And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. **21** And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' **22** But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. **23** And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. **24** For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

25 "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. **26** And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. **27** And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' **28** But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, **29** but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. **30** But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' **31** And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. **32** It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'" (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you identify more with the younger son or the older son? Why?
2. How can we become more consistently aware of the times when we need to return to our Father?
3. How does the father's overabundant welcome strike you? If you viewed God in this way, how might your life look different?
4. How does anger reveal areas of self-righteousness? How have you seen this in your life?

NOTES

LUKE 16:1-13

PASSAGE

1 He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. **2** And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ **3** And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. **4** I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ **5** So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ **6** He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ **7** Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ **8** The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. **9** And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

10 “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. **11** If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? **12** And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? **13** No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you been taught in the past to view money?
2. What are some principles that should guide our view of financial stewardship?
3. How should the way Christians view money be different from the way the world views money?
4. How does faithfulness in seasons of little prepare us for faithfulness in seasons of abundance? What does faithfulness practically look like for you in this season?

NOTES

LUKE 16:14-18

PASSAGE

14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. **15** And he said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

16 “The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it. **17** But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one dot of the Law to become void.

18 “Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who or what are you tempted to love more than Jesus? How can you prioritize Jesus as your first love?
2. What is your reaction to the fact that God knows your heart?
3. In today's culture, what do you see being highly valued that God considers detestable?
4. How can we be faithful to Christ with our money, possessions, relationships and marriages?

NOTES

LUKE 16:19-31

PASSAGE

19 “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. **20** And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, **21** who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. **22** The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, **23** and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. **24** And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ **25** But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. **26** And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ **27** And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— **28** for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ **29** But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ **30** And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ **31** He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How can Christians care for the poor around them in meaningful ways?
2. Why is hell such a difficult subject to discuss with others?
3. How would you engage with a person who claims, “God is cruel if He torments people for eternity in hell”?
4. Why is it a good thing that Jesus is the only way? How would you explain this to someone who believes Jesus’ exclusive claims are not loving?

NOTES

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

LUKE 17:1-10

PASSAGE

1 And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! **2** It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. **3** Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, **4** and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" **6** And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

7 "Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? **8** Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? **9** Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? **10** So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'" (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some temptations that we face as a culture? As a church? Personally?
2. Do you find it hard to forgive others for repeated sins?
3. What does faith like a mustard seed look like? What is something big you are trusting God for in faith?
4. What are some wrong motivations for serving God? What should our motivation be?

NOTES

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

LUKE 17:11-19

PASSAGE

11 On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. **12** And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance **13** and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." **14** When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. **15** Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; **16** and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. **17** Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? **18** Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" **19** And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How available are you to stop and help those who are in need?
2. How can you faithfully obey Jesus as you wait for healing or an answered prayer?
3. Do you find it difficult to acknowledge God's blessings publicly? If so, why?
4. How often do you live in gratitude for what God has done in your life? How might we grow in our thankfulness for God's saving work in our lives?

NOTES

LUKE 17:20-37

PASSAGE

20 Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, **21** nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

22 And he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. **23** And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them. **24** For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. **25** But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. **26** Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. **27** They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. **28** Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, **29** but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— **30** so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. **31** On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. **32** Remember Lot’s wife. **33** Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it. **34** I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. **35** There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left.” **37** And they said to him, “Where, Lord?” He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What makes you long to see Jesus’ return?
2. How has busyness in your life distracted you from the reality of Jesus’ return?
3. What does it look like to practically lose your life on a day-to-day basis?
4. How are you tempted to preserve your life rather than lose it?

NOTES



LUKE 18:1-8

PASSAGE

1 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. **2** He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. **3** And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' **4** For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" **6** And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. **7** And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? **8** I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about a season in your life that was marked by persistent prayer. What did God do through your prayers? What did you learn?
2. What factors cause you to lose heart while praying?
3. What truths do we need to remind ourselves of when we are tempted to give up praying persistently?
4. What does a lack of prayer reveal about our faith?

NOTES



LUKE 18:9-14

PASSAGE

9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: **10** “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11** The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. **12** I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ **13** But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ **14** I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does self-righteousness affect the way we view and treat others?
2. How are you tempted to be “thankful” that you are not like other people?
3. What are some areas of sin for which you are praying for God's mercy? How does believing that He is merciful give you confidence as you confess and plead for help?
4. What are some practical ways we can humble ourselves?

NOTES



LUKE 18:15-17

PASSAGE

15 Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. **16** But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. **17** Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you think is at the heart of the disciples by their actions in this passage?
2. How should Jesus' view of children shape how we view children? How is this at odds with our culture's view of children?
3. What are the characteristics of a child-like faith? What does this type of faith communicate?
4. What are the dangers of seeing particular groups of people as burdens in ministry?

NOTES



LUKE 18:18-30

PASSAGE

18 And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 19 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. **20** You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" **21** And he said, "All these I have kept from my youth." **22** When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." **23** But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. **24** Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, "How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! **25** For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." **26** Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" **27** But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." **28** And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." **29** And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, **30** who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you answer someone who asks you, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"
2. Why is it worth it to sacrifice worldly treasures in order to follow Jesus?
3. How have you seen wealth serve as a hindrance to people surrendering to Christ?
4. What competes to pull your heart's devotion away from knowing Jesus?

NOTES

LUKE 18:31-34

PASSAGE

31 And taking the twelve, he said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. **32** For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. **33** And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.” **34** But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What role has suffering played in your life and in your relationship with God?
2. Are you tempted to view suffering as something outside of God's plan for your life? How can you fight against that temptation?
3. What are some common misconceptions of Jesus' purpose?
4. How does the gospel give you hope in hard seasons when you do not understand what God is doing?

NOTES

LUKE 18:35-43

PASSAGE

35 As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. **36** And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. **37** They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." **38** And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" **39** And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" **40** And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, **41** "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight." **42** And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well." **43** And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God. (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about the moment when Jesus granted you sight to see Him for who He truly is.
2. How should Jesus' reaction to the cries of a blind beggar shape our response to those in need around us?
3. How does the blind beggar provide us with a picture of persevering faith in the face of public ridicule?
4. How do we know if we are seeing Jesus clearly? What are some things that we can do as a community to identify blind spots in our view of Jesus?

NOTES

LUKE 19:1-10

PASSAGE

1 He entered Jericho and was passing through. **2** And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. **3** And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. **4** So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. **5** And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." **6** So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. **7** And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." **8** And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." **9** And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. **10** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What surprises you about the way Jesus interacted with Zacchaeus?
2. In what ways are we like the disgruntled people in this passage?
3. How does true repentance go beyond a simple apology to restorative action?
4. How can we join Jesus in His mission to seek and save the lost?

NOTES

LUKE 19:11-27

PASSAGE

11 As they heard these things, he proceeded to tell a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. **12** He said therefore, "A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return. **13** Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Engage in business until I come.' **14** But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.' **15** When he returned, having received the kingdom, he ordered these servants to whom he had given the money to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by doing business. **16** The first came before him, saying, 'Lord, your mina has made ten minas more.' **17** And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.' **18** And the second came, saying, 'Lord, your mina has made five minas.' **19** And he said to him, 'And you are to be over five cities.' **20** Then another came, saying, 'Lord, here is your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief; **21** for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man. You take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.' **22** He said to him, 'I will condemn you with your own words, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? **23** Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and at my coming I might have collected it with interest?' **24** And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas.' **25** And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!' **26** 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. **27** But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slaughter them before me.'" (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the resources that God has entrusted to believers, and what does faithful stewardship of those resources look like?
2. How do you integrate faith into areas of your life that may not seem spiritual?
3. What are some things in need of change in your life in order for you to engage in Jesus' business until He returns?
4. How can we focus on faithful stewardship of what we have been given instead of falling into the trap of comparing our gifts, strengths, and assignments to others?

REFERENCES

INTRODUCTION

¹Darrell Bock, *NIV Application Commentary: Luke*, pg.19
²R.T France, *Teach the Text: Luke*, pg.1
³Darrell Bock, pg.20
⁴Michael Wilcock, *The Message of Luke*, pg.1
⁵*ESV Study Bible*, pg.1937
⁶Darrell Bock, pg.23-25



citadelsquare.com

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE
JESUS: SAVIOR OF THE WORLD | PART 3
2024