

Let's Worship God

26th Nov. - 1st Dec. 2018
Luke



THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Monday - Luke 11:33-36 - Single Heart

When the Gospel is put before a man's soul, it is as if God offers him a lighted candle. It is not enough to hear it, to agree with it, to admire it, and to say it is true. It has to be received into the heart, and obeyed in life. Until this happens the Gospel does him no more good than if he were someone who had never heard it. A lit candle is before him, but he is not using it.

Even when a man believes on Christ in his heart, valuing the light of the Gospel, he must be careful that he does not keep it to himself. He must try to share this light with all around him; to show them the truth he sees himself. He must live his life in such a way that people see Christ and the light of His Gospel.

Christ teaches the importance of a single and undivided heart in the things of God. The single heart is a heart which is not only changed, converted, and reborn; but thoroughly and regularly under the influence of the Holy Spirit. It is a heart that hates compromise, lukewarmness, and hesitation between God and the world. It focuses on one thing - the love of Christ dying for sinners. It has one goal - to glorify God and obey Him. It has one desire - to please God. These are the priorities of its life. The opinions of men matter very little to the single heart.

The man or woman who has a single heart will show Christ to all around them. Their family, their friends, their neighbours, their employer - all see their faith and, whether they like it or not, be forced to admit that it is real. The man or woman of single heart has a joy and peace in their faith that lazier Christians never obtain. Their life is full of light.

Questions

1. What is the lit candle like?
2. How can we share our light with others?
3. What does it mean to have a single heart?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would have a single heart.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows." Luke 12:7

Praise: Psalm 119:Part21 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Tuesday - Luke 11:37-44 - Hypocrites

Notice that Jesus is ready, when necessary, to spend time with unbelievers. This is a pattern for all Christians. There is a time when the servant of Christ must mix with the ungodly. This doesn't mean he takes part in their sins, but we are not to be impolite, withdrawing ourselves completely from the world. Much good can be done through spending time with unbelievers in their homes, at their jobs, in their shops, on the train, etc.

One thing must not be forgotten, however. When we spend time with unbelievers, we must have the same attitude Christ has. We must be bold in speaking of the things of God. We must not excuse sin or water down God's Word. If we are too afraid to imitate Christ in this way, we had better stay at home.

The Pharisee is a hypocrite - he values outward show of faith. But Christ makes clear that the state of our hearts is more important than appearance. Regular church attendance, pretended prayers and Scripture reading, outward respectability, these are an abomination to God, so long as our hearts are not washed from their sin and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

The Pharisees carry to an extreme their zeal for the service of the temple; - but they neglect their plain duty towards God and their neighbours. They are rigidly careful to do even more than is necessary in the ceremonies of faith, but they do nothing at all when it comes to loving God and men. There are thousands of men and women the same today - they are so meticulous about their behaviour on a Sunday, but act as an unbeliever every other day of the week.

Questions

1. What is Jesus' attitude in going into the Pharisee's home?
2. What is a hypocrite? Why is the Pharisee a hypocrite?
3. What did the Pharisees forget to do?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would be bold in speaking to others of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows." Luke 12:7

Praise: Psalm 119:Part 22 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Wednesday -Luke 11:45-54 - Inconsistency

Our Lord Jesus Christ, without fear or favour, rebukes the sins of the Jewish lawyers. He calls things by their right names. He knows that severe diseases need severe remedies, and that the best friend to our souls is not the one who tells us what we want to hear, but the one who speaks the truth.

It is a great sin to pretend to teach others what we do not practice ourselves. These lawyers require others to observe tiresome religious ceremonies (invented by man not God) which they themselves neglect. They have one standard of behaviour for the people and another for themselves. This is a warning to all who teach others: ministers, elders, parents, etc. We must not tell others to aim at a standard which we do not aim at ourselves. We will not reach perfection in this life, but there should be consistency between our words and our actions.

It is easier to admire dead Christians than living ones. These lawyers claim to honour the memory of the prophets, then live in the very way the prophets condemn. They openly neglect their advice and teaching, and yet they pretend to respect their graves. Many today praise dead Christians, but live in a way these Christians would have criticised and have no time for the living people of God.

Christ speaks of a coming day of judgement for those who have persecuted His people. Thousands of believers have been killed throughout history by cruel and unjust men. But there will come a time when those men will have to answer before the Judge of all the earth for their actions.

Christ warns against the sin of keeping anyone back from the things of God. We must be careful to never discourage anyone, no matter how young, from caring about spiritual things. Instead, we should encourage them, help them, and thank God if they are better than ourselves.

Questions

1. Why is it easier to admire dead Christians?
2. Why does Jesus speak so bluntly?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.” Luke 12:7

Praise: Psalm 120 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Thursday - Luke 12:1-7 - Fear

Christ warns His disciples many times about hypocrisy. The principles of the Pharisees are deeply engrained in human nature, and Christians should be always on their guard against them. The love of show and outward appearance is all around us. How can we avoid it? We must have a heart religion. We must realise that our God looks below the surface of the things we say, and He measures us by the state of our hearts. We must be real and true in our Christianity, not pretending to be something we're not, not putting on a public show of our faith. We can deceive many people, but we can't deceive God.

Christ also warns us about the fear of man. The fear of man is one of the greatest obstacles between the soul and heaven - "What will he say about me? What will he think about me? What will they do to me?" How often these questions have kept men and women bound to the devil. Thousands will not hesitate to face a storm or a wild animal, but they are afraid to face the laughter of those they know.

How can we fight against the fear of man? We must replace it with the fear of God. We must look away from those who can only hurt the body to Him who controls the soul. When we look on Him who is all powerful, we find the lesser fear melting away before the greater.

Christ encourages persecuted Christians here. He reminds them that God takes care of all His creatures. Nothing whatever, whether great or small, can happen to a believer, without God's permission. And He has the promise of God that all that happens to him is for his good and God's glory.

Questions

1. How can we avoid hypocrisy?
2. How can we get rid of the fear of man?
3. What does God promise about what happens to us?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's care of us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows." Luke 12:7

Praise: Psalm 121 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Friday - Luke 12:8-12 - Speaking for Christ

We must confess Christ upon earth, if we expect Him to claim us as His people on the day of judgement. We must not be ashamed to let all men see that we believe in Christ, and serve Christ, and love Christ, and care more for the praise of Christ than for the praise of man. Confessing Christ is for every Christian. It doesn't require trumpets, or persecution, or loud and angry claims - anyone can by their lives and speech make it clear who their Lord is. If a man loves Jesus, he ought not to be ashamed to let people know it. It won't be easy. The world which always hated Christ, hates true Christians. If we do not own Christ, Christ will refuse to acknowledge us as His people. He will disown us as cowards, faithless, and deserters. He will not deliver us from the wrath to come. He will leave us to reap the consequences, and to stand before God helpless, defenceless, and unforgiven.

Those who deliberately reject God's truth with the heart, even while they clearly understand it, commit a sin which will not be forgiven. Why will it not be forgiven? Because such a man will never seek to have it forgiven. His heart is hard and unyielding, and he does not want God.

Christ tells us not to worry over what we will say when we are required to speak about Him. The Holy Spirit teaches Christians what to say in times of need. When we are suddenly and without warning called upon to defend our faith, to explain what we believe, or to talk to others about the Bible, we don't need to panic. The Holy Spirit will give us all the words we need to say and the ability to say it.

Questions

1. How do we confess Christ?
2. Why will someone who has rejected the truth not be forgiven?
3. Who will teach us what to say when we speak of Christ?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would be bold in speaking of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows." Luke 12:7

Praise: Psalm 122 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Saturday - Luke 12:13-21 - Riches

Christ warns His followers about greed and covetousness. The heart is greatly prone to covet. The angels who fell were not content - they coveted something better. Adam and Eve were not content - they coveted the forbidden fruit. It is a sin which, ever since the fall, has been the cause of misery, unhappiness, war, quarrels, envy, jealousy, and hatred. We must pray for a thorough confidence in God's providence over all we have, and God's perfect wisdom in all His arrangements concerning us. Let us pray that we will be content with what we have.

Jesus draws the picture of a rich man of the world, whose mind is wholly set on earthly things. He then shows us God requiring this man's soul, and the folly of the man who thinks of nothing but his money. There are far too many people like this rich man today. Millions are laying up treasure on earth and thinking of nothing but how to increase it. They are adding to what they have, as if they were to enjoy it forever, and as if there is no death, no judgement, and no world to come.

We must be rich towards God. This is true wisdom. This is true providing for time to come. The wise man is he who does not think only of earthly treasure, but of treasure in heaven. How can we be rich towards God? When we are rich in grace, and rich in faith, and rich in good works. When we have our name in the book of life, and we are an heir of God and a joint heir with Christ. Then we are truly rich. Our bank never breaks. Our inheritance never fails. Riches like these are within the reach of every sinner who will come to Christ and receive them.

Questions

1. What is covetousness?
2. Why are riches a danger?
3. How can we be rich towards God.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows." Luke 12:7

Praise: Psalm 123 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced for the RP Global Alliance
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