

# Let's Worship God

24th-29th December 2018

Luke



# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### **Monday - Luke 16:1-12 - Honesty**

This is a difficult passage to understand. The fault isn't with the Bible, but with us and our limited understanding. We need to be careful that we don't draw from these verses lessons which they are not meant to teach. Jesus is not saying that dishonesty and stealing are ok. This manager cheats and steals from his boss who is impressed by his sneakiness. But there is no proof that his boss is pleased with what he has done, or that Christ is praising him for doing it.

The point of the parable is that you should prepare for the future. As dishonest as the manager is, he at least thinks ahead and provides for his future home. In this and this alone, we should imitate him. We should look far ahead to our death and what will happen after it. We should prepare for the time when we will have to leave our home here on earth for another home, and we should make sure, like this manager, that when that time comes we have a home waiting for us.

Christ also teaches us here about the great importance of being faithful in little things. Christians should not take lightly the unfaithfulness of this manager. Little things are the best test of character; and unfaithfulness about them is a symptom of a bad heart. Jesus isn't saying that honesty about money is going to forgive our sins and get us into heaven, but He means that dishonesty about money is a sure sign of a heart that is not right with God. We must always be careful that we don't separate our faith from our daily life. True faith will always be known by its fruits. We can be very sure that where there is no honesty, there is no grace.

### **Questions**

1. In what way should we imitate this manager?
2. In what way should we not be like him?
3. Why is it important to be faithful in little things?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that we would be faithful in little things.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

“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.” Luke 16:13

**Praise:** Psalm 142 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.

# THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

## **Tuesday - Luke 16:13-18 - Wasting Time**

It is useless to attempt to serve God with a divided heart. This seems pretty obvious, but thousands are constantly trying to do this very thing that Christ calls impossible. They are trying to be friends of the world and friends of God at the same time. They realise that they need some kind of religion, but they love the world and the sins of the world too much to be true Christians. So they are constantly unhappy and uncomfortable. They know too much about the things of God to be happy in the world, and they have too much of the world in their hearts to be happy with God. They are wasting their time trying to do the impossible. If you want to be a happy Christian, take these words to heart. The more we give ourselves to Christ, the more we live for Him and not for ourselves, the more we will have the peace and joy of faith. If it's worthwhile to serve God at all, let us do it wholeheartedly. Our eternal life is at stake, for if we can't make up our minds to give up everything for Christ, we can't expect Christ to claim us at the last day. He wants all or nothing.

The value man gives things is very different from the value God gives them. The very things for which most people live their lives - money, careers, popularity, pleasure, God calls foolishness when seen on their own, and He warns us to beware of loving them too much. Prayer, Bible-reading, holy living, repentance, faith, grace, and worship are things most people don't care about. But these are the very things God urges us to pay attention to. Whose estimate is right? Who will be the Judge of our thoughts, words, and actions? It doesn't matter what men or women think of what we do - it matters if God values what we are doing. Anything else is a waste of time.

### **Questions**

1. How can we be a happy Christian?
2. Why is it impossible to serve two things?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that we would serve Christ wholeheartedly.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

“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.” Luke 16:13

**Praise: Psalm 143 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

## **Wednesday -Luke 16:19-31 - Hell**

What a man has or doesn't have on this earth is no indication of whether he has a saved heart or not. In this parable, the poor man has grace and the rich man has none. The poor man lives by faith, and the rich man is thoughtless, selfish, and dead in sins. We must never give in to the idea that men are to be valued by their income, and that the man with the most money should get the most respect. If we want to measure men as God measures them, we must value them according to their grace.

Death is the end to which everyone comes. Very few seem to realise this fact. They live their life as though they are going to live on earth forever. Christians should guard against this, always bearing in mind that there is an end to this life.

The souls of believers are especially cared for by God in death. We know very little about what happens after death. When it is time for us to die, it will be like travelling to an unknown country. But we do know that if our trust is in Christ, we are safe. We will be at rest, with no needs, and best of all, we will be with Christ.

Hell is real, it is eternal, and it is for those who have not put their faith and trust in Christ. This is a truth we must never let go of. Many want to deny it, ignore it, or water it down, but if we truly care for people we must warn them of the awful reality of God's judgement. When that day comes, how terrible it would be for our friends and relatives and neighbours to say to us, "You never warned me it would be like this." The Bible contains everything we need to know in order to be saved. We don't need more evidence to cause men to repent, we need more changed hearts. Only when the Holy Spirit is working in men's hearts will their eyes be opened to the truth.

### **Questions**

1. How should we value people?
2. Why is it a loving thing to tell others about Hell?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the salvation of your family, friends, and neighbours.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

"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." Luke 16:13

**Praise: Psalm 144 - See [www.rppglobalalliance.org](http://www.rppglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### Thursday - Luke 17:1-4 - Hypocrisy

It is a great sin to put stumbling-blocks in front of other people's souls. When does this happen? When do men or women cause others to stumble? Whenever they try to stop or slow down believers from serving Christ. But this isn't the only way men and women cause others to stumble. Those who claim to be Christians can do it whenever they bring shame on the name of Christ by being inconsistent or hypocritical. When we say one thing and do another, we are putting a stumbling-block in front of the souls of those watching us. We are giving them an excuse for neglecting or ignoring Christ. We need to ask ourselves whether we are doing good or evil to Christ by our actions. Men and women will always be watching those who profess Christ, and they will judge us far more by what we do than by what we say. The cross of Christ will always offend people. Let us not increase that offense by carelessness in our daily life. Unbelievers can't be expected to love the Gospel, but let us not disgust them by hypocrisy.

These verses also teach us the great importance of a forgiving spirit. The ability to forgive others is a good indicator of whether we ourselves have been forgiven. The man who can't forgive his neighbour seems to know nothing of the free and full forgiveness given us by Christ. The ability to forgive is a mark of the Holy Spirit working within you causing your faith to bear fruit.

Look at your own life. If you are honest, you know that you have often offended someone and caused them to stumble by your behaviour. You have often allowed unkind, angry, and revengeful thoughts to take root in your heart. This should not be. Ask Christ for forgiveness and the ability to do better, so that your Christian life will be beautiful.

### Questions

1. How do we make others stumble?
2. Why should we forgive others?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that our lives would bring honour not shame to Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

"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." Luke 16:13

**Praise: Psalm 145 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### **Friday - Luke 17:5-10 - Faith and Pride**

Faith is the root of salvation. It is the hand by which the soul grabs hold of Jesus Christ, and is united to Him and saved. It is the secret of all spiritual comfort and health. From our faith will come peace, hope, strength, courage, and victory over the world. When the apostles ask for more faith, they are wise.

Faith is a grace that grows in stages. It is not in full strength and perfection as soon as it is planted in the heart by the Holy Spirit. There is little faith and great faith, weak faith and strong faith. We see this in the Bible and in the lives of Christians around us. The more faith a Christian has, the more happy, holy, and useful he will be. It should be our daily prayer for our faith to grow.

Have you any faith at all? This is the first question you should ask. Thousands come to church who have no faith. True faith is not natural to man. It comes from heaven - it is the gift of God. If you have any faith, pray for more of it. Do not be satisfied with a small and weakly faith.

Our Lord Jesus Christ gives a heavy blow to our pride. We all think far higher of ourselves and what we do than we should. Pride can be a very subtle disease that shows itself in many ways, and while we are good at noticing it in others, we are very bad at spotting it in ourselves. To give up our pride is essential to salvation. If we want to be saved, we must admit that we need to be saved, that we have no good or worthy thing in us. We must be willing to trust in the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and live our lives knowing that at our best we only do our duty, and have nothing to brag about. And we are only able to do our duty if God gives us the strength. True humility is seeing ourselves for who we really are and God for who He really is.

### **Questions**

1. Where does faith come from?
2. Why do we want more faith?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for more faith.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

“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.” Luke 16:13

**Praise: Psalm 146 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# THE GOSPEL

## ACCORDING TO LUKE

### **Saturday - Luke 17:11-19 - Thankfulness**

If you really think you're in trouble and need help, you're not going to waste any time looking and asking for it. These lepers are in a terrible condition - cast out of society, cut off from their family and friends. They understand how bad things are for them, so they don't hesitate to cry out for help when Christ appears. The condition of those dead in their sins is even more miserable and desperate than that of these lepers. So why don't they cry out to Christ for the healing and life only He can give. Because they don't think they need help. They don't realise how dead and in how much danger they are. When a man or woman first begins to realise how sinful they are, they soon learn to pray for help. But unbelievers aren't the only ones who don't pray for help as they should. There are many Christians who think they have life pretty much under control. They don't realise their weakness. We must seek to have a constant sense of our own inability and helplessness that will drive us to Christ for the mercy and grace only He can give.

The lepers have relief from their misery as soon as they obey Christ's commands. Simple obedience to what Christ says will lead to blessing. We are not to argue and doubt the clear commands of God. If the lepers had done so they would never have been healed.

Thankfulness is an unusual thing, even in the lives of Christians. We are more ready to pray than to praise, and to ask God for what we don't have than to praise Him for what we have. We should pray daily for a thankful spirit - it is a spirit God loves. When we have a greater sense of our own sin and that we deserve nothing but God's wrath and curse, we would be daily thanking God for the new life He has given us.

### **Questions**

1. Why do unbelievers not ask God for help?
2. How can we have a more thankful spirit?

### **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**

"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." Luke 16:13

**Praise: Psalm 147 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://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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