

Let's Worship God

3rd-8th February 2025
Luke



THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Monday - Luke 5:1-11 - Fishers of Men

Jesus Christ is going to let nothing stand in the way of doing the Lord's work, of telling the Gospel to others. He is not daunted by inconvenience or trouble. We must not wait till every little difficulty or obstacle is removed before we start speaking of Christ. We must do as much as we can while we can. As we wait for perfect circumstances to speak of Christ, souls are going down the road to a lost eternity. In whatever circumstances we are in, we should be working for God - not standing still.

Simon unquestioningly obeys the Lord and is blessed for this obedience. We should be imitating Simon here. We must give plain, unhesitating obedience to what Christ says. It may be hard. It may not make sense. But when Christ tells us to do something, we have to do it. We are to believe that whatever He commands us is good and right, even if we don't understand. And sooner or later, we, like Simon will be blessed for our obedience.

God's presence humbles man and makes him feel his sinfulness. When Simon realises some of the holiness and greatness of Christ, his own littleness and sinfulness stand out even more to him. The more we understand the perfection and holiness of God, the greater we will see how sinful and evil we really are and our desperate need of a Saviour.

As Simon lays trembling at His feet, Christ gives him a promise - a promise not just for him but for all preachers of the Gospel. He promises that they will catch men. Ministers are often tempted to give up in despair and to stop preaching, but here is a promise, a promise that their work will not be in vain, that God's Word will not return empty, that no work for God is ever useless, that they will catch men.

Questions

1. Why does Simon ask Jesus to leave?
2. What promise does Jesus give him?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for ministers that they would be fishers of men.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32

Praise: Psalm 101 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Tuesday - Luke 5:12-16 - The Mercy of God

Leprosy is an incurable disease. It affects every part of your body, wasting it away. It is a living death, but in these verses we see the power of God over leprosy. In many ways this is a picture of our relationship with God. We are all lepers spiritually in the sight of God. Sin is the sickness that affects every part of our body. Though we may be physically alive, we are spiritually dead. It is Jesus Christ, the divine Physician, that delivers us from death to life.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is willing to help those in need. What an encouragement this should be for us. Christ is ready to show compassion and mercy to sinners. He is ready to give grace to His people. The destruction of sinners is not Christ's fault - it is their own.

Jesus holds the ceremonial law of God in high respect. Even though it is a short time till it is fulfilled, the leper is still told to do all that is required. God's commands, no matter how small, we should respect and obey.

Christ does not allow the demands of the crowds to interfere with the time He spends with God in prayer. Many Christians spend a lot of time in ministry but very little time in prayer. We must be careful in this. We can't allow good things like church work to crowd out better things like time spent with God. It is through our Bible reading and prayer that we grow to be more like Christ, and as we become more like Christ, the work we do will be blessed by God. Let us follow Jesus' example and spend more time alone with God in prayer.

Questions

1. How are we like lepers?
2. How should we treat the commands of God?
3. Why is prayer so important?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would spend more time in prayer.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32

Praise: Psalm 102 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Wednesday -Luke 5:17-26 - Determination

Determination. Determination is the lesson of these verses. These men are determined to get to Christ. They are determined to get their friend to Christ. They won't let any obstacle stand in their way. United by a common desire, they work together, thinking creatively, to get their friend to Christ. This should be the pattern of our lives. Are we determined to get to Christ? Do we refuse to be turned away by obstacles? Are we united in our efforts to bring our friends to Christ? Do we consider a relationship with Christ something to be grasped at all costs? Perhaps if we are half as determined as these men, we might receive the rich blessing they do - the salvation and healing of their friend. But too often, we make excuses and allow obstacles to stand in the way of our relationship with God and our desire to bring others to Christ.

Jesus Christ knows our hearts, He knows our secret thoughts and desires, He sees what we say and do at all times. He knows what the friends are thinking, He knows what the paralytic is thinking, He knows what the crowd is thinking, and He knows what the Pharisees are thinking. This should be a check against our sinful actions and an encouragement for the unseen good that we do. Our Lord sees all and knows all. Many things we wouldn't do if we thought a video camera was filming us, but we do not fully realise that we are watched constantly by God.

The fact that God knows our every thought would be frightening if it isn't for the other fact of who God is. God is loving, compassionate, and merciful. Jesus Christ knows the imperfect thoughts of the paralytic, He knows that this man has faith, however small, in Him, and He shows mercy, compassion and love to this man. The God who sees every thought also loves His people. If you belong to Him, you have nothing to fear.

Questions

1. What were these men determined to do?
2. What does Jesus Christ know about us?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would be more determined.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32

Praise: Psalm 103 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Thursday - Luke 5:27-32 - Levi

The man Levi here is the same as the apostle Matthew. Levi is just another name for Matthew. He is a tax-collector. His job is to pay the tax of a certain area to the Roman government then go around and collect the tax off the people in that area. Tax-collectors were almost always dishonest, charging the people much more than their actual tax, so that they can make a nice profit. If the people refuse to pay, they will be thrown into prison. For these reasons everybody hates tax-collectors. But the greatest sinner is not beyond God's grace. We must not despair in our prayers to see men and women come to Christ. No matter how wicked they are, God is still able to call them to Himself, just as Christ did to Levi.

When Levi hears Jesus' call to him, his response is instant. He leaves his job behind and goes to follow Christ. He doesn't stop to count the cost of the uncollected taxes, he just goes. Instant, unquestioning obedience. Do we have this kind of obedience to the commands of God in His Word? Or do we stop to count the cost, questioning whether it's a good idea to obey immediately?

Levi also calls all of his friends together to hear what Christ has to say. He has found new life in Christ, and he wants all those around him, his friends, his family, to come to Christ as well. If we truly realise what a great thing God has done for us in saving us, how much we need it, how we were doomed before, we long to have those close to us saved as well. We can't stand the thought of them continuing to a lost eternity.

Questions

1. Who is Levi?
2. What does he do? Why don't people like him?
3. What is his response to Jesus?

Prayer Points

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

Memory Verse

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32

Praise: Psalm 104 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Friday - Luke 5:33-39 - New Wine

God's Word only commands a fast once a year before the Day of Atonement. Beyond that it is left to the individual to determine when to fast (or in some cases a national fast would be called for by the king). But in Jesus' time the Pharisees have developed the practice of fasting twice a week as an outward sign of their holiness. John's disciples might have been obeying the rules of the Pharisees in this, or they may perhaps have wanted to fast more often because of John's preaching on sin and the need for repentance.

The point Jesus is making is that for His disciples this is not an appropriate time to fast. The long-awaited Messiah is in their midst, the Saviour of the world, their King and Redeemer is with them. This is a time of joy in what God is doing. Yes, there is a time to fast and be sorry for your sin, but there is also a time to rejoice in God's grace and celebrate your salvation.

The Pharisees and even some of John's disciples have become so caught up in the accepted way of doing things that they've stopped thinking. They are just going through the motions of serving God. It becomes just an outward show. They don't stop to think about the reason why they are fasting. Or the fact that the forgiveness they have been fasting for is there on their doorstep in the person of Christ. Jesus tells the parable He does to drive home the point that the old ritual ways are ending. The man-made laws of the Pharisees teaching that you are saved by how holy you appear are to be thrown out. Ceremony for ceremonies sake is over. The new wine of salvation through God's grace is to be drunk. Yet, even though the new ways are better Christ knows that many will refuse to change preferring to try to earn their salvation than praise God's grace.

Questions

1. Why did the Pharisees fast?
2. Why was it the wrong time for fasting?

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

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32

Praise: Psalm 105 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Saturday - Luke 6:1-5 - Pharisees

These verses give us a classic example of what a Pharisee is. A Pharisee is someone who misses God's point. He is someone who does things for outward show, and a Pharisee makes up a variety of rules, and it is the keeping of these rules it considers of most importance. The Pharisees accuse Jesus' disciples of Sabbath-breaking. Again, as with the fasting, they don't want to look at why they are doing what they are doing. All they care about is the way the action appears. They have missed the principle behind the commandment.

Jesus defends His disciples. He points out to the Pharisees that God allows for works of necessity and mercy on His day. He brings up an example that even they can't find fault with - their greatest king. Finally He asserts His authority to explain how the sabbath is supposed to be kept. Jesus isn't saying we should do away with the Lord's Day and the fourth commandment. No, He is just clearing up the misunderstandings of the Pharisees.

Far too often as Christians we are like Pharisees. We focus on the outward show of obedience and miss the point behind it all. We come up with our own rules that prove we are obedient, and we don't look behind our actions to our heart and mind. We don't look behind what people do to see if they have a Biblical reason for it, instead, if it doesn't match our way of doing things we assume they must be wrong. Obedience is much more than good behaviour, but this is something the Pharisees are continually forgetting.

Questions

1. What did the Pharisees accuse the disciples of doing?
2. Why were they wrong?
3. What is true obedience?

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

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32

Praise: Psalm 106 - 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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