

Let's Worship God

22nd-27th October 2018

Luke



THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Monday - Luke 8:1-3 - Our Great Privilege

Our Lord Jesus Christ's time on earth is short, but He accomplishes much by never wearying of doing good. The unbelief and opposition He meets with does not slow Him down. We are to imitate Christ in this. Our time is short, and there is much work to be done - we must not waste time on things of no importance.

The women in these verses also set us an example. They have to endure hardship and the scorn of those who know them. But these women are so thankful for what Christ has done for them that they gladly follow Jesus. These are some of the women that stand by Christ to the very end as He dies on the cross and are the first to visit His grave. Their example encourages all women to follow Christ despite any hardship they may face in doing so. Perhaps a young mother thinks she has no time to follow Christ and take care of a family, or maybe the wife of an unbelieving husband feels too afraid of what her husband will say to follow Christ. The daughter of unbelieving parents may think it's impossible for her to follow Christ with no encouragement from home, or maybe the professional woman feels that Christ should be kept quiet in the workplace. But our Lord Jesus Christ, who enables the women in these verses to follow Him, calls women to serve and glorify Him today despite their circumstances.

These women also count it a privilege to serve the Lord with what they have. He doesn't need their service - He can multiply loaves and fish to provide for Himself whenever He wants. But it pleases Him to let these women do things for Him. In the same way, God does not need us to do the small jobs we do for Him. He, who has all power, can simply speak, and they are done. But it pleases Him to use us to do His work. This is a great privilege - the opportunity to show our love for God by serving Him.

Questions

1. Why are these women so faithful in following Christ?
2. What is our great privilege?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would not weary in doing good.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21

Praise: Psalm 109 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Tuesday - Luke 8:4-15 - Hearers of the Word

This parable is full of warnings to those who hear God's Word. First, we are to beware the devil. The devil is working all the time to stop or slow us down from growing as Christians. He wants to prevent as many as he can from being saved. From the devil come our wandering thoughts, lazy minds, sleepy eyes, fidgety nerves, tired ears, and distracted attention during the preaching of God's Word. We will always find the devil at Church, and we must be on our guard against his distractions.

The second warning is to be careful of resting on temporary impressions when we hear God's Word. A sermon may make us feel sorry for our sins. It may make us rejoice; we may become angry at the sinful world or fired up with enthusiasm to tell others of Christ. But as soon as the benediction has been pronounced, all those emotions can often fly away leaving us with no lasting impression. Emotions are important, but unless they take root in our heart and soul producing Godly fruit, we are like the stony hearers - a temporary passion for the things of God that dies out the moment trouble comes.

The third warning is to beware the things of this world. Sitting in our pews, listening to God's Word, we may resolve to better obey our Lord. But as soon as the service is over the worries and excitements of our lives drive all thoughts of spiritual things out. The things of God, family and private worship, become less a priority, and the things of the world grow in importance to us.

The final warning is to beware of being content with faith that does not bear fruit in our lives. If our lives do not show evidence that we have put our trust in Christ and live to love and obey Him, we have an empty, dead faith that is no faith at all. True faith will bear fruit in our lives.

Questions

1. What is the devil's goal?
2. What must true faith do?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that our faith would produce fruit in our lives.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21

Praise: Psalm 110 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Wednesday - Luke 8:16-21 - The Family of the King

These verses are a further practical application of the parable of the sower. They teach us that our knowledge of God must be put into practice. Just knowing about God is not enough - it is as useless as a hidden candle. Instead our Christianity should be seen in our lives. Thousands around us are without Christ and without hope, going to a lost eternity. We are not to hide the truth that God has given us, but by our lives and by the things we say to others, we are to shine the light of the Gospel throughout the world.

It is not enough to go to church every Lord's Day and listen to the sermons. We may do this for 50 years and see no evidence of change or growth in grace in our lives. It is not enough just to hear, we must hear the right way. How? How can we be sure that when we are listening to a sermon we are really hearing it? First, we must listen with faith, believing that every word of God is true and unchanging. We must listen with respect remembering that the Bible is the book of God, our Creator and Lord. Above all, we must listen with prayer, praying for God's blessing before the sermon is preached and praying for God's blessing again when the sermon is over. Then we will experience the truth of God transforming our lives.

Those who hear the Word of God and do it have a great privilege. Our Lord Jesus Christ considers them His brothers and sisters. These true Christians who have turned from their sins and turned to Christ, who know the joy and peace of forgiveness, who live their lives in service to God out of gratitude and love for what He has done, they belong to the family of the Lord of lords and King of kings.

Questions

1. How can we shine the light of the Gospel throughout the world?
2. How should we listen to sermons?
3. Whom does Christ consider His brothers and sisters?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for our minister as he prepares the sermons.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21

Praise: Psalm 111 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Thursday - Luke 8:22-25 - Faltering Faith

Our Lord Jesus Christ is a man as well as God. He knows what it is to be tired and to sleep, and He understands what it's like to have that sleep interrupted by people who need you. We must be careful not to expect more out of ourselves than Christ does of Himself. Sometimes we are tired, and we just need to sleep.

The disciples forget that Christ has never failed to take care of them in times past. They forget that with Him they are always safe no matter what happens. They forget everything but the present danger which is more real to them than their faith. Christians can always be overcome by their fears. The mere fact that our small faith does not give way in times of hardship is proof not of what great Christians we are but of how great God's grace is to us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has all power over the wind, the waves, and the storm. When awakened from His sleep, He does not respond in irritation, but He puts His power to work for the good of His disciples. He is still using His power today for our good. What a comfort it can be to us that our most powerful Lord and King loves us and will use His power to help us.

We must keep our faith ready for use. What is the good of believing if we cannot believe in time of trouble? It's far too easy for us to be like the disciples, to trust Christ when things go well, and to falter when the storms of life come. We must pray that we will have a stock of faith ready for use at a moment's notice and may never be found unprepared.

Questions

1. How do we know that Jesus was a man?
2. What do the disciples forget about Christ?
3. What does God use His power for?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for God's power and love of His people.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21

Praise: Psalm 112 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Friday - Luke 8:26-36 - The Power of God

When the devil reigns in someone's life the result is misery and horror. We see this in the demon-possessed man described in these verses. But we also see this today. Perhaps we don't see cases where Satan bodily possesses someone, but all around us are those whose souls have been possessed by the devil. Satan still urges those in whose hearts he reigns to destroy themselves. He still drives them on from sin to sin, far from any good influence, plunging them into the depths of wickedness. We have all seen those whose lives are a mess because the devil reigns in their hearts. Often there is only one thing we can do for them - pray. Christ who has healed those possessed by demons, still lives in heaven, and pities sinners. The worst slave of Satan is not beyond hope. Jesus may yet have compassion and set him free.

Notice the absolute power that Christ has over Satan. The evil spirits are forced to leave this man and have to beg for permission to enter the pigs. This power should give us great comfort and keep us from despair. Christ will not allow Satan to steal any of His people and is daily rescuing lost souls from the devil's kingdom.

An amazing change takes place in those whose lives have been transformed by the Gospel. When men or women go from being slaves of Satan to children of God, their lives are never the same again. Each conversion is truly as wonderful as the sight of this man, formerly insane, clothed and in his right mind at the feet of Jesus.

Questions

1. What is the result of Satan's control over someone's life?
2. What can we do for people who seemed to be intent on destroying themselves?
3. How does a person change when they become a Christian?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of those in our town.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21

Praise: Psalm 113 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO LUKE

Saturday - Luke 8:37-40 - Staying at Home

Why do the Gadarenes want Christ to leave? Why after He has done such an amazing miracle, do they not want Him around? There is only one answer - they love the world and the things of the world, and they don't want to give them up. They understand that they can't open their lives to Christ and still keep their pet sins, and they are determined not to give up their sins. Why does Jesus agree to their request? He does it in judgement, leaving them to their sin, removing the offer of salvation from them. Hundreds of churches and people today have asked Christ to get out of their lives, they want nothing to do with Him, and Christ has punished them by doing exactly what they asked, leaving them without hope.

We can all understand why the demon-possessed man wants to go with Jesus. He loves Jesus and wants to never leave this God-man who has loved him and saved him. So, why does Christ refuse to take him along? Imagine how humiliating it would be to do what Christ asks - to return to a place where you have a reputation as a madman and try to get people to listen to what you have to say. It isn't an easy job Christ sets before him. But in His wisdom, our Lord knows this is the best job for this man. In His mercy Christ leaves among the unbelieving Gadarenes a man who can show them the truth. It is far more difficult to speak to our neighbours about Christ, far more humbling, than to travel far away to speak to others about Christ. God calls most of us to do the work of this demon-possessed man, to stay right where we are, among the people who know us far too well, and tell them about how much God has done for us.

Questions

1. Why did the Gadarenes ask Christ to leave?
2. Why did Jesus tell the demon-possessed man to stay?
3. Why is it harder to speak of Christ to those we know than to strangers?

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

But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." Luke 8:21

Praise: Psalm 114 - 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!**

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