

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

▣ Luke 17:20-31 (Mark if read)

Lu 17:33 Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it.

Those who live for themselves display these common attitudes: (1) Materialism—I want it and work hard to get it. Unseen things are merely ideas and dreams. (2) Individualism—I work hard for me, and you work hard for you. If you don't make it, that's your problem, not mine! (3) Skepticism—anything I'm not convinced about is not important. If its important, I'll understand it.

Those who have these attitudes in the end lose all spiritual dimension to their life. In an effort to get what they want, they lose what God has to give them.

QUESTIONS

- 13. Where is the kingdom of God? _____
- 14. Who are we supposed to remember? _____

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In all thy ways acknowledge him,
and he shall direct thy paths.
PROVERBS 3:6

DAILY DIRECTION

ISSUE 16 | April 17-23

Name _____ Grade _____

—THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT—

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH | PALMYRA, NY

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HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH | PALMYRA, NY

MONDAY, APRIL 17

▣ Luke 14:1-24 (Mark if read)

Lu 14:11 *For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

Some people try to give the appearance of humility in order to manipulate others. Others think humility means putting themselves down. Truly humble people compare themselves only with Christ, realize their sinfulness, and understand their limitations.

On the other hand, they also recognize their gifts and strengths and are willing to use them as Christ directs. Humility is not self-degradation; it is realistic self-assessment and commitment to serve.

QUESTIONS

1. What illness did a certain man have at the chief priests house? _____
2. What 4 types of people were supposed to be called to the feast? _____

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SATURDAY, APRIL 22

▣ Luke 17:1-19 (Mark if read)

Lu 17:3 *Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.*

To rebuke does not mean to point out every sin we see; it means to bring sin to a person's attention with the purpose of restoring that person's relationship with God and with fellow humans.

When you feel you must rebuke another Christian for sin, check your attitude before you speak. Do you love that person? Are you willing to forgive? Unless rebuke is tied to forgiveness, it will not help the sinning person.

QUESTIONS

11. What did the disciples ask Jesus to increase in their life?

12. What percentage of the healed lepers came back to express gratitude to Jesus? _____

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FRIDAY, APRIL 21

☐ Luke 16 (Mark if read)

Lu 16:15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

The Pharisees acted piously (a self-exalting spirituality) to get praise from others, but God knew what was in their hearts. They considered their wealth to be a sign of God's approval. God detested their wealth because it drew them to abandon true spirituality.

Though prosperity may earn people's praise, it must never substitute for devotion and service to God.

QUESTIONS

10. Explain verse 10. _____

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QUESTIONS

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TUESDAY, APRIL 18

☐ Luke 14:25-35 (Mark if read)

Lu 14:34 Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned?

Salt can lose its flavor. When it gets wet and then dries, nothing is left but a tasteless residue. Many Christians blend into the world and avoid the cost of standing up for Christ. Jesus says that if Christians lose their distinctive saltiness, they become worthless. Just as salt flavors and preserves food, we are to preserve the good in the world and bring good flavor to life. This requires careful planning, willing sacrifice, and unswerving commitment to Christ. If we fail to be salty, we fail to represent Christ in the world. How salty are you?

QUESTIONS

3. What CAN'T you be if you do NOT take up your cross and follow Christ? _____
4. What can't you be if you do NOT forsake ALL that you have? _____

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▣ Luke 15:1-10 (Mark if read)

▣ Luke 15:11-32 (Mark if read)

Lu 15:4 *What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?*

Lu 15:32 *It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.*

It may seem foolish for the shepherd to leave 99 sheep to go search for just one. The shepherd knew that the 99 would be safe in the sheepfold, whereas the lost sheep was in danger. Because each sheep was of high value, the shepherd knew that it was worthwhile to search diligently for the lost one.

In Jesus' story, the older brother represents the Pharisees, who were angry and resentful that sinners were being welcomed into God's kingdom. "After all," the Pharisees must have thought, "we have sacrificed and done so much for God." How easy it is to resent God's gracious forgiveness of others whom we consider to be far worse sinners than ourselves. If our self-righteousness gets in the way of rejoicing when others come to Jesus, we are no better than the Pharisees.

God's love for the individual is so great that he seeks out each one and rejoices when one is found. Before you were a believer, God sought you.

QUESTIONS

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5. What two types of people drew near to Jesus?

6. What did the Pharisees think about that? _____

7. How many masters does a good servant have? _____
8. According to verse 18, if you divorce your wife and marry someone else, what are you committing? _____
9. According to verse 18, what are you committing if you marry someone that's divorced? _____

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