

STUDY GUIDE: Week 2 – Luke 6 – 10

Monday: Read Luke 6. On the Sabbath (1-11). The Twelve Apostles (12-16). The Sermon on the Plain (17-49). The upside down Kingdom that Jesus describes: blessings for lowly things, love for enemies, judging, and true fruit. Which is the hardest to swallow? The easiest? Could you live this way?

Tuesday: Read Luke 7. In vv. 36-50, do you think the Pharisee was aware of the social custom to greet guests with a kiss and wash their feet? Why do you think the sinful woman came to the Pharisee's house? What made the Pharisee upset? In the story about the two men who owed money, what was Jesus saying to Simon? Who was the prophet in your life who believed in you and saw beauty in you before you believed in yourself?

Wednesday: Read Luke 8. Of the people traveling with Jesus, what position do the women seem to have (cf. vv. 1-15)? What does this passage tell us about them? Based on this passage and Luke 7:36-50, what is your general impression of Jesus' relationships with women? Do vv. 9-10 indicate that Jesus wants people to misunderstand his teaching? Before becoming a Christian, what preconceptions did you have about Christians? What effect did these have on your receptiveness? What can you do to help turn someone's bad preconceptions into "good soil"?

Thursday: Read Luke 9. Why do you think Jesus empowered the disciples to perform miracles? What is the purpose of miracles in Jesus' own ministry? How important are they? In vv. 18ff, what does the title Christ (or the Messiah) mean? [See a Bible dictionary.] Nowadays, who do most people say Jesus is? Why is it important to know what people believe about Jesus? What does it mean to you to (a) deny self, (b) take up your cross daily, (c) follow Christ, (d) lose your life?

Friday: Read Luke 10. Focus on vv. 25-37. Do you think Jesus knew about the Samaritans? What made them social outcasts? If the priest and Levite were taking the dangerous road because they were in a rush to get to their religious duties in Jericho, do you think they could be justified in passing by the wounded man? Why do you think the Samaritan stopped when the others "passed" by on the other side? What makes a Good Samaritan really good?