

Lesson #17: Jesus, Resurrection and Life

Welcome Prayer & Class Review of previous week: Narrow Door (15 minutes)

- Jesus the Narrow Door is probably the most popular objection to Christianity – people want all ways to lead to heaven. They think God would not be that inclusive.
 - Wisdom of our day says anyone, anywhere can enter heaven.
 - The central element that prevents people from going through the Narrow Door is PRIDE
- Luke 13:24-14:1 (Day 1)
 - Being religious is not entering the doorway into the kingdom
 - There are people in our churches who have not entered the narrow door but hold the door open for others to enter. Always preach the gospel!
 - Jesus dined at the house of the Pharisees, even though Jesus had already called them a brood of vipers (Mt 12:36).
 - Jesus still held the door open for them, still trying to help them walk through the door themselves.
 - We have no idea when the door is going to close.
 - Jesus heals the man with dropsy on the Sabbath and He questioned the religious leaders about their willingness to save their own son or animal but they were angry at healing some of the flock they were supposed to be caring for.
 - Their pride got in the way of seeing truth and entering the narrow door.
 - Consequently, those invited through the door first would be last to enter.
- Luke 14:7 – 35 (Day 2)
 - Jesus used the dinner party to teach the point of humility. Exalting oneself vs. letting Christ through others exalt you.
 - Jesus teaches about discipleship. He uses the word “hate” to depict choosing one person over another. It is about choosing Christ over even family.
 - Jesus taught you must count the cost to follow Him.
- Luke 15:1-32 (Day 3)
 - Jesus taught the importance of finding something that had been lost.
 - Jesus’ point in using the lost sheep, coin, and son is that they had value to the owner or parent, they were missed, and they meant something to them. They were worth finding and celebrating when they did.
- Luke 16:1-18) (Day 4)
 - Jesus taught about the unrighteous steward who was called to give an accounting. He lowered the amount owed by each debtor so perhaps one of them would take them into their home when he was out of work.
 - He was not lowering the amount legitimately owed to the master, but what he was charging as his own profit.
 - He was told he was shrewd – he knew he had a problem and took corrective action. An astute judgement.
- Luke 16:9 – 17:10 (Day 5)
 - Jesus told the story of the rich man and the poor man, Lazarus, both dying.
 - Lazarus was in Abraham’s bosom (the name of the place of death for the OT believer). The rich man was in Hades (the name of the place of death for the OT non-believer).

- There was a divide and awareness. The rich man suffered greatly in Hades, still wanted Lazarus to serve him, and he did not ask to go over to the other side. He wanted someone to tell his family, but he was told the message had been given very clearly.

The lesson ends with Jesus making quick statements on:

- Being a stumbling block
- Having the faith of a mustard seed.
- Serving is not for gratitude but what should be done by believers.

Homework Discussion – In small groups (30 minutes)

Jesus, Narrow Door

Study 1: First will be Last	Pg 69-71: #7, 12, 14, 19
Study 2: Dinner Guests & Discipleship	Pg 73-75: #4, 9, 10
Study 3: Lost and Found	Pg 78-79: #8, 9, 10, 15
Study 4: Unrighteous Steward	Pg 81-82: #4, 5, 7, 9
Study 5: Rich man and Lazarus	Pg 85-86: #6, 11, 12, 13

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Resurrection and Life (5 minutes)

- Jesus brings Lazarus back to life after having been dead for four days.
- Jesus said to Lazarus' sister, Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- What do you think is meant by Jesus being the Resurrection and Life?
- Share prayer requests with your group.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)