

Matt 8:1-13, 11:2-19; Luke 7 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. In Luke 7:18-23 what did John want to know (v18-20) and what did this mean? In what 2 ways did Jesus respond (v21, 22-23)? Why was this significant (see Isaiah 35)?

5. Read Luke 7:24-28. What was Jesus trying to get the multitudes to see about John and his relation to the kingdom (v24-26, 27, 28)? What did John's identity reveal about Jesus?

6. From Luke 7:29-35 what was the people's (v29) and Pharisees' (v30) response to Jesus' teaching? What was Jesus' description of the Pharisees (v31-32, 33-34) and the proof (v35)?

7. Look at Matt 11:11-14. How do people try to get into the kingdom (v12) and is this good or bad? What does Jesus mean that John was the "Elijah who was to come" (see Mal 4:4-6)?

8. Using Luke 7:36-39 where did Jesus go and why (v36)? What occurred (v37-38) and how did the Pharisee react (v39)? Why?

9. Summarize Jesus' story (v40-42) in Luke 7:40-47. Who did the moneylender and debtors in the story represent? How had Simon and the woman treated Jesus differently and why (v44-46) and why (v47)?

10. In Luke 7:48-50 what did Jesus declare to the woman (v48) and why was this important? What did this cause (v49-50)?

11. Review how Jesus showed His power in this study and who it affected. How did Jesus present the gospel to the ones healed, John the Baptist, the Pharisees, and sinful woman? How did each one respond and why?

Scripture to Remember

"For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little."

Luke 7:47 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

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Life Group Questions—Press On (1 Peter 5:6-11)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Tell the group about the greatest distance you have ever run, walked, biked, or swam. Describe how you felt at various stages.
2. Read 1 Peter 5:6-11. How would you define anxiety and what causes it usually for you? Why must you know God to be able to "cast" your anxiety on Him?
3. Discuss which benefit of giving God your cares means the most to you—facing your cares honestly, having wisdom to understand, having strength to endure, or having faith in Him.
4. How do you recognize the enemy when you are going through trials? What does it look like 1) to be of sober mind 2) to be vigilant and 3) to resist him?
5. Talk about how 1) choosing humility over pride 2) truth over deception 3) faith over doubt 4) prayer over pressure and 5) unity over division each enable us to resist Satan.
6. What must we remember about the future if we are to pass through the problems of today? How does this happen for you in everyday life?



THE LIFE OF JESUS

Studies in the Gospels

Nov 22, 2009

Growing in Spirit & Truth

Volume 8, Issue 13



When Necessary Use Words

Matt 8:1-13, 11:2-19; Luke 7



Jesus' one solitary life changed the course of mankind for eternity.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

One of St. Francis of Assisi's famous quotes is "Preach the gospel at all times—when necessary use words". This describes the teaching of this week's study, illustrated not only by Jesus, but also by those who trusted in Him. However, the religious leaders didn't understand this, and actually took the opposite approach of all talk and no action. The section opens in Luke with examples of Jesus' power. A Roman centurion had a slave that was near death so he sent for Jesus to come and heal him. As Jesus approached his house the man sent friends to tell Jesus to just send a word of healing and that would be sufficient. So it was; the slave was healed from a distance by Jesus. Because the man simply believed the power of Jesus' words He praised his faith as being greater than anyone's in Israel. He then went to Nain and there raised a widow's son from death because of His compassion. The report of this

spread through Judea and Nain. Next, Jesus gave encouragement to the prophet, John, through His actions that confirmed prophecy from Isaiah 35. John wanted assurance that Jesus was the Messiah so Jesus did the works of the Messiah then had John's disciples report this back to him. With these signs Jesus launched into an assessment of the responses to John. The multitudes had listened to him as a prophet, but the Jewish leaders, while curious, had rejected him. This also signified their rejection of Jesus. They didn't like John's approach, but Jesus' approach, which was very different, was spurned as well. Thus, Jesus evaluated their actions as violent, as though they could take the kingdom through their power. The reality, though, was that the repentance called for by Malachi the prophet through John, the latter "Elijah", was all that would give them entrance. The wisdom of this, as Jesus said, would be shown by the offspring of their actions. Finally, Je-

sus contrasted the actions of true repentance with superficial words in his encounter with a Pharisee, Simon. A sinful woman came and kissed his feet, wiping them with her tears, while Simon failed to even show the minimal hospitality to his guest, Jesus. So, Jesus told a story that illustrated the reason. A moneychanger forgave two debtors, one who owed much and one who owed little. The one who was most grateful was the one who had the greatest debt cancelled. Jesus thus gave the principle that our love for Him is connected with our perception of how much we have been forgiven. Jesus thus preached the gospel by action, and when necessary used words.

Study Questions for Matt 8:1-13, 11:2-19; Luke 7

(for answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf.html/study%20questions))

<p>1. Look at Luke 7:1-10. What request was made of Jesus, by whom, and why (v2-5)? What did the centurion say to Jesus (v6-7) and why (v8)? What principle does his answer reveal? Apply.</p>	
<p>2. Compare Matt 8:5-13 with Luke 7:1-10. How did Jesus respond to the centurion (v10-13)? What made his faith so great?</p>	
<p>3. Using Luke 7:11-17 what did Jesus encounter (v11-12) and what did He do (v14-15)? Why (v13)? What was the result of His actions (v16-17)?</p>	

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