

Sept. 13, 2020
Christ Chapel Of Bandera
Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study

Not needed to follow this writing/lesson is a referenced Study Guide. An attempt has been made where anybody with a Bible will find easy reading.

Sunday Sept. 13, 2020. The Gospel Project; Adult Daily Discipleship Guide ESV; Volume 9, Number 1; Fall 2020; Jesus Tells the Parable of the Sons.

Opening Joke:

Which friends should you always take out to dinner? Your taste buds.

Opening Prayer:

In class: Ask an attendee to open with a word of prayer.

On WEB site: Lord Father Almighty, abounding in love and eternal patience, we confess our iniquity; we are troubled by our sins. How long before we truly learn to listen to You, the God that only wants to take care of us. You are whom we should be turning to first for everything. Help us put away our pride and self-reliance, reminding us that you love us. Please forgive us of our many wrongs and insults to You. It is through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Disclaimer:

I am not seminary trained. Other than being a Christian, I do not claim any special relationship with God. Therefore, feel free to disagree with anything and everything I write/say.

The Lesson:

Questions for thought:

Is there anyone here that thinks he or she will get through the rest of his or her life without sinning in thought, word, or deed?

If it is impossible not to sin, why try not to sin?

Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God".

The New International Version of the Bible says in Romans 11:32, "For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that He can have mercy on them all."

Questions for thought:

Who has bound all men over to disobedience? (God).

Why? (So that He can have mercy on them all).

Is God's mercy available to all men?

Do all Men receive God's mercy?

What does a person have to do to receive God's mercy?

In the New International Version of the Bible Psalms 38:18 says, “ I confess my iniquity, I am troubled by my sin.”

Job 10:15 says,

“If I am wicked woe to me.

If I am righteous I dare not lift up my head.

I am sated with disgrace and conscious of my misery.”

Questions for thought:

Why shouldn't a righteous man dare to lift his head?

What does sated mean?

How important is it for a person to admit their sin?

How important is it for a person to repent?

What is the difference between admission and repentance?

The Study Guide on page 22, in the *Voices From The Church* section has a quote from Tony Evens: “Repentance doesn't mean just feeling sorry for what we've done. It involves action. It means moving back towards God, humbly confessing our sin to Him, and receiving His forgiveness and restoration.”

Using the Bible translation of your choice read Luke chapter 15.

Still in the New International Version 1 Tim 1:15 says, “Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance, Christ Jesus came to save sinners, of whom I am the worst.”

Questions for thought:

In Luke 15:1 who was coming near Jesus? (Tax Collectors and sinners).

Why were they coming near Jesus? (To listen to Him).

Today, why do Christians draw near to Jesus and why study the Bible?

Luke 15:2 indicates the Pharisees and Scribes began to grumble because Jesus was receiving and eating with sinners.

The Study Guide on page 25, in part of the second paragraph says, “We are offended, shocked, and often driven to attack by what should be an utterly unsurprising fact of life; people who don't know Jesus act like they don't know Jesus. Sinners sin. That this is the sad state of things doesn't make sin acceptable, of course, nor does it mean Christians are not called to preach against sin. The gospel of Jesus is good news for sinners, and anyone who isn't able to face first the facts of his or her own sin will not be able to receive the grace that liberates him or her from it. This reality should affect how we look at sinners.”

It continues in the end of the third paragraph and the beginning of the fourth paragraph, “In the economy of the kingdom of God, there are no “good people” and “bad people”. There are just people (sinners, all), and then there's Jesus. So the next time you're

tempted to be outraged by the latest report that lost people do indeed act like lost people, remember your Savior who was not repulsed by you.”

In Luke 15:5,6,9, and 22-24 mentions celebrations happening when lost items are found or returned.

The Study Guide on page 26, the second and third paragraphs say in part, “In the same way, Jesus said the Lord and His heavenly host celebrate the salvation of one sinner as if that one makes all the difference. Every time a lost person is saved, every time a stranger comes into the fellowship of the church, we should act like we didn’t know how incomplete we were without him or her. We should treat every found person as if she were the missing piece. That’s how much one person is worth to Jesus. Every believer is valuable, necessary, and important to the kingdom.”

Questions for thought:

How much is one person worth to Jesus?

How much are you worth to Jesus?

The Study Guide on page 21, the last paragraph the last sentence says, “To live with yourself at the center – rather than God – is to live spiritually bankrupt and set yourself up for utter catastrophe and sorrowful emptiness.”

It continues on page 26, the last paragraph the last sentence says, “The truth is if we have Christ, we can suffer any loss or stifled pleasure because in Him we have everything we need.”

On page 27, in the first paragraph the Study Guide says, “Do you realize there isn’t a day in your life when the Lord is surprised by your flaws and failures? He’s not even surprised by your sin. He is God, and therefore, He has seen it all coming. If you’re a Christian, He knew what He was “signing up for” when He saved you.”

On page 23, the last paragraph the Study Guide says, “The parable of the prodigal son is as much about the older son’s legalism as the younger son’s hedonism. Our heavenly Father’s goodness is not contingent upon the law – as if we could earn His favor through our legalistic efforts. Rather, we experience God’s goodness through His grace – namely, the person and work of Jesus Christ, who put an end once for all to legal striving and redeems us from the curse of the law through His own perfect obedience on our behalf.”

On page 27, the last paragraph the Study Guide says, “The older son in the parable of the prodigal son was very busy measuring, specifically, the younger son against himself. This is often how legalism works. The legalist doesn’t measure other people against the holiness of God but against his own perceived holiness. We need to take care in realizing that all fall short of God’s glory, including ourselves. This will help us have compassion for others who aren’t as put together as we think we are, not to mention help us to express awe and praise for the God who has loved and forgiven even us.”

Questions for thought:

How much are you worth to Jesus?

How much is Jesus worth to you?

How much does Jesus love you?

How much do you love Jesus?

How much does Jesus love the person next to you?

How much does Jesus love the unbeliever?

What can you do to help the unbeliever realize the love of Jesus?

Can you explain to an unbeliever why you are a Christian?

Now we have an opportunity to go next door to thank Jesus, to thank the Creator, for His love. Let us do so remembering how much each one of us is worth to Jesus.

Thank you for allowing me to worship the Lord with you.

Joe Huth