

Luke 7:11-28

Jesus Raises a Widow's Son (v. 11-17)

11 And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.

12 Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

14 And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

15 And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

16 And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

17 And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about.

Jesus and John the Baptist (V. 18-28)

18 And the disciples of John shewed him of all these things.

19 And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

20 When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

21 And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

22 Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

23 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

25 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously appavelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts.

26 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet.

27 This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Study Questions

Ch. 7:11-27

1. What do most people think about miracles today? What do you think?
2. Why is the death reported in Luke 7:11-12 especially serious? Would a death like this be as serious today?
3. Why did the people say of Jesus, “a great prophet has appeared?” (1 Kings 17:17-24, 2 Kings 4:18-37)
4. Did Jesus raise other people from the dead? (Matthew 9:18-26, John 11:38-44) 5. Do you expect God to work miracles in your life? Why or why not?
5. What’s the longest length of time that you have waited for an answer from God? Do you think sometimes God doesn’t answer you at all?
6. Where was John the Baptist when he sent his disciples to Jesus in Luke 7:18? (Luke 3:20)
7. For what two questions did John want answers? Why would he have any doubts? Do you have questions about Jesus? Are you looking for answers? How?
8. How did Jesus answer John’s questions? Why did he answer John in the way that he did?
9. How and why do appearances affect how a person is received? (7:24-26) How can you be more aware of the message than the messenger? Can the two ever be completely separated?

Ch. 7:28-50

(V. 28-35)

28 For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.

29 And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John.

30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.

31 And the Lord said, Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like?

32 They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept.

33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil.

34 The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!

35 But wisdom is justified of all her children.

Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman (V. 36-50)

36 And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat.

37 And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment,

38 And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment.

39 Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.

40 And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on.

41 There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.

42 And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?

43 Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.

44 And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head.

45 Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet.

46 My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment.

47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.

48 And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

49 And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also?

50 And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

Ch. 8:1-3

1 And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him,

2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,

3 And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

Study Questions

Ch. 7:28 - 8:3

1. Explain Luke 7:28. What is your reaction to that verse?
2. Why did people react in different ways to the words of Jesus? (7:29-30) What did their reactions say about their relationship with God?
3. Explain Luke 7:32. What did Jesus say you should do to avoid getting caught in a similar situation? (7:35) How can you do what Jesus recommended?
4. Of what messengers of Jesus should you be wary? Which should you welcome? How do you recognize them?
5. What limits or expectations do most people place on their hospitality? (Who is invited, welcome at arrival, expected behavior, arrival/departure time, etc.)

6. Why do you think the sinful woman came to the Pharisee's house? (To upset him, to ruin the party, to seek forgiveness, to minister to Jesus, or something else).

7. What made the Pharisee so upset? (Her reputation, his reputation, Jesus' acceptance of the woman)

8. Jesus' story about the two men owing money seems a strange response to the Pharisee. What was he actually saying to Simon? (a) you can't know grace because you don't think of yourself as a sinner, (b) you are a bigger sinner than the woman but you don't know it, (c) the more you've sinned, the more your love for God, (d) the more you've been forgiven, the more your love for God.

9. How did the other guests react to Jesus' forgiveness of the woman? (7:49)

10. When have you ever felt like Simon or the other guests when confronted by a person of questionable morals?

11. What was Jesus' double blessing on the woman? 12. What are the limits of Jesus' compassion toward us?

13. In the opening verses of Chapter 8, why do you think Luke took the time to mention the women in Jesus' following? What is the meaning of this to you?

Luke 8:4-15
Parable of the Sower (v. 4-15)

4 And when much people were gathered together, and were come to him out of every city, he spake by a parable:

5 A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it.

6 And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture.

7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it.

8 And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

9 And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be?

10 And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Study Questions

Ch. 8:4-15

1. In what areas of your life have you had to persevere?

2. Why would a farmer allow precious seed to land on the path, or rocks, or among thorns? Is he an irresponsible farmer scattering seeds at random?

3. What happened to each group of seeds?

4. How did Jesus conclude his parable? (8:8)

5. How much of the parable did the people understand? How much did the disciples understand? (8:9-10)

6. Why didn't the people or the disciples understand this parable?

7. Did Jesus design his parables to have trick meanings, hidden meanings, or more than one basic interpretation? Why do some listeners discover the truth in a parable and others do not?

8. Why do you suppose that this was among the first parables that Jesus told?

9. What kind of people today might be represented by the seed that fell on the path? (8:12)

10. Why couldn't those who received the word with joy stay faithful? (8:13)

11. What choked those who were represented by the seed that fell among the thorns? What other things (or people) might the thorns represent?

12. Why is perseverance necessary for all who receive the Word?

13. What kind of soil do you most resemble right now? What worries or temptations have hindered your growth as a Christian recently?

14. What will most help you be responsive to God in your study of the Bible?

Luke 8:16-39

A Lamp on a Stand (v. 16-21)

16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

17 For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.

18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

Jesus' Mother and Brothers (v.19-21)

19 Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press.

20 And it was told him by certain which said, Thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to see thee.

21 And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.

Jesus Calms the Storm (v. 22-25)

22 Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth.

23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy.

24 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.

25 And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

The Healing of a Demon-possessed Man (v. 26-39)

26 And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee.

27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs.

28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.

29 (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.)

30 And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.

31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

32 And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them.

33 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked.

34 When they that fed them saw what was done, they fled, and went and told it in the city and in the country.

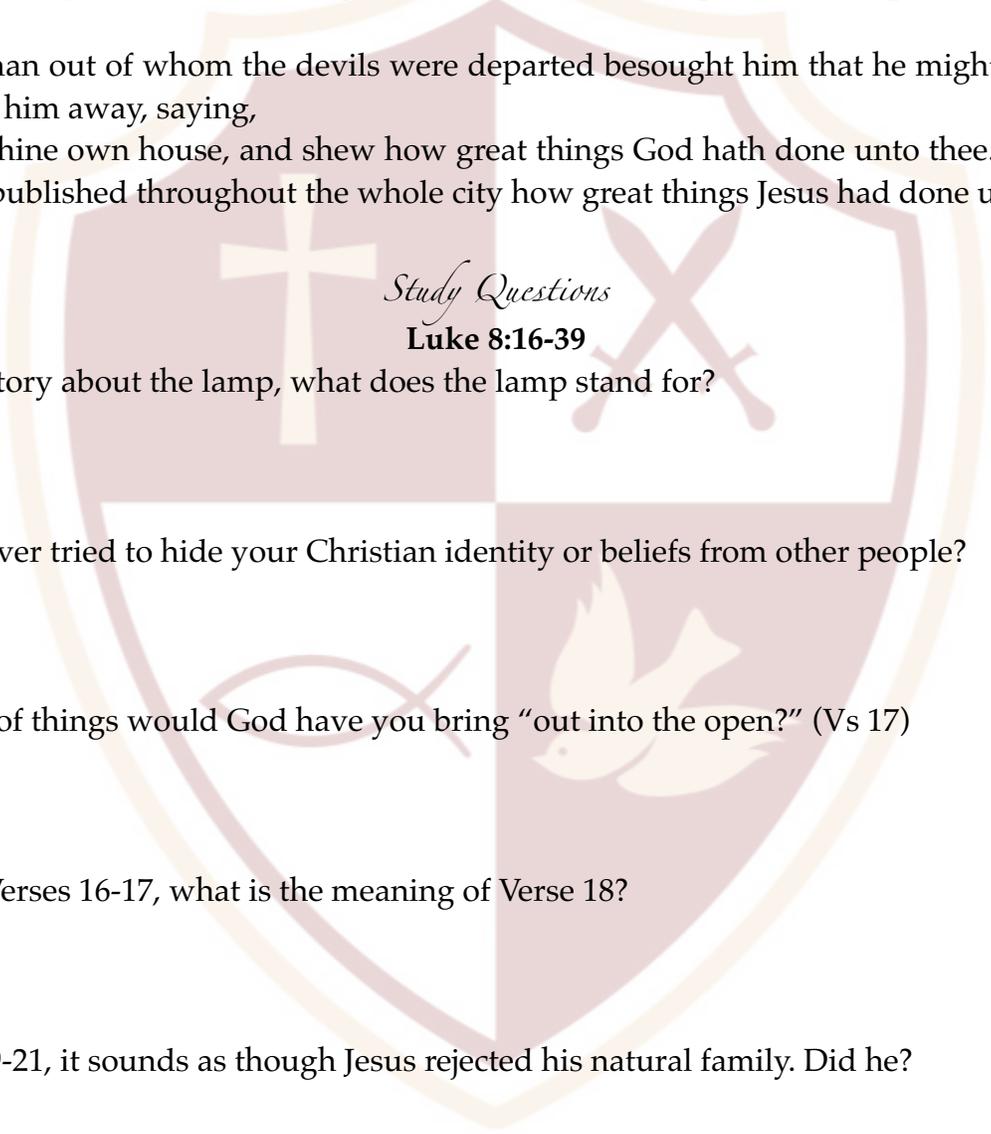
35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

36 They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed.

37 Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again.

38 Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Jesus sent him away, saying,

39 Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee. And he went his way, and published throughout the whole city how great things Jesus had done unto him.



Study Questions

Luke 8:16-39

1. In Jesus' story about the lamp, what does the lamp stand for?
2. Have you ever tried to hide your Christian identity or beliefs from other people?
3. What sorts of things would God have you bring "out into the open?" (Vs 17)
4. In light of Verses 16-17, what is the meaning of Verse 18?
5. In Verses 19-21, it sounds as though Jesus rejected his natural family. Did he?
6. In what ways do you put your family ahead of the needs of others?
7. What would help you put God's word into practice?

8. Have you ever felt overwhelmed by events you couldn't control? (Verses 22-25) What did you do? How can you build up your faith in Jesus to help you?

9. What was the demon-possessed man's life like? (Vs 27, 29)

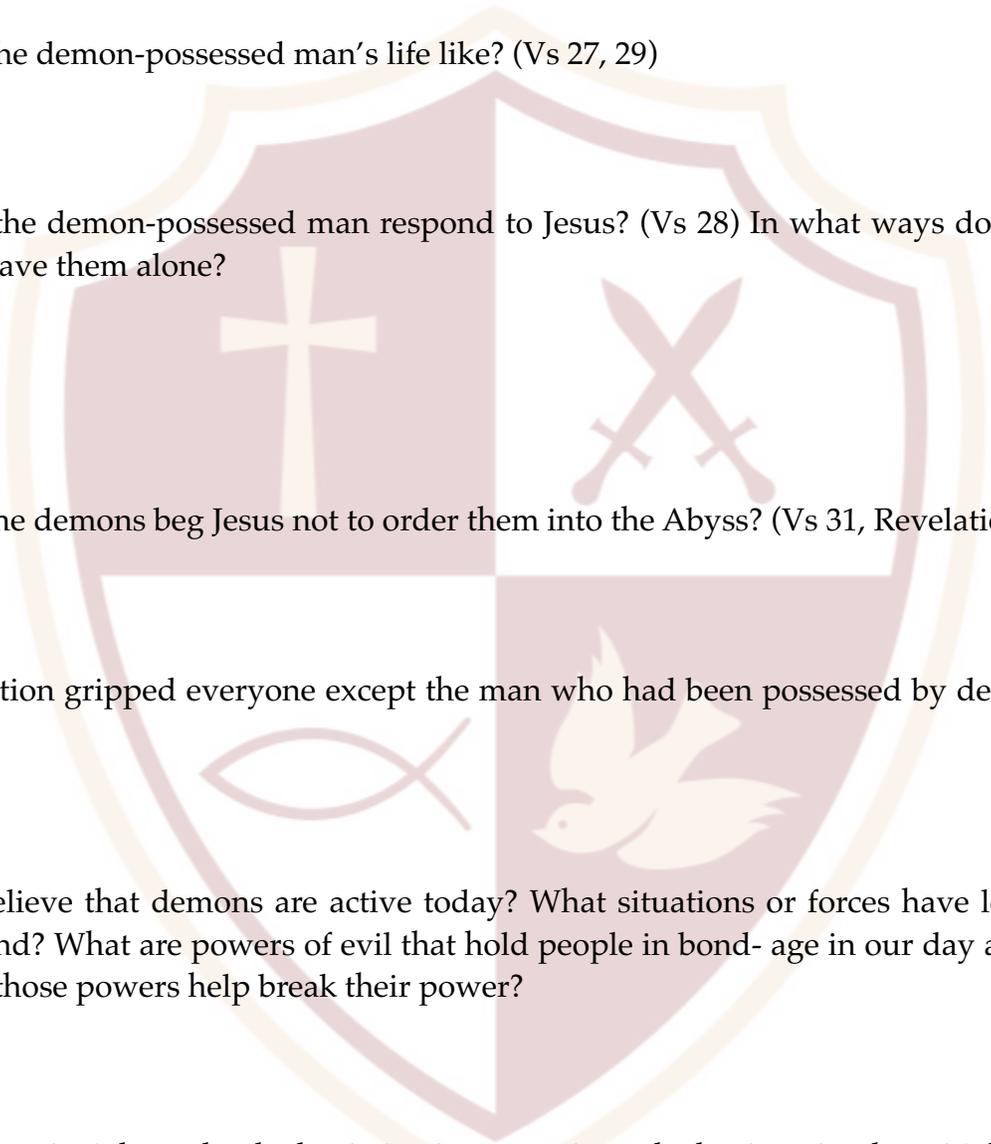
10. How did the demon-possessed man respond to Jesus? (Vs 28) In what ways do people today ask Jesus to leave them alone?

11. Why did the demons beg Jesus not to order them into the Abyss? (Vs 31, Revelation 9:1, 20:1-3)

12. What emotion gripped everyone except the man who had been possessed by demons? (Vs 35, 37)

13. Do you believe that demons are active today? What situations or forces have left you not in your right mind? What are powers of evil that hold people in bondage in our day and age? How does naming those powers help break their power?

14. Often Jesus asked those that he healed to be quiet about the healing, but he told this man to tell others about it (vs 39). Why? If Jesus touched your life, would he ask you to be quiet about it or tell others about it?



Ch. 8:40-56

A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman

40 And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.

41 And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house:

42 For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him.

43 And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

44 Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanchd.

45 And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

46 And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

47 And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.

48 And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

49 While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master.

50 But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.

51 And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden.

52 And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.

53 And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

54 And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.

55 And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

56 And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done.

Ch. 9:1-9

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

3 And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece.

4 And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart.

5 And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.

6 And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.

7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him: and he was perplexed, because that it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead;

8 And of some, that Elias had appeared; and of others, that one of the old prophets was risen again.

9 And Herod said, John have I beheaded: but who is this, of whom I hear such things? And he desired to see him.

Study Questions

Ch. 8:40-56 & Ch. 9:1-9

1. How far would you go to bring physical healing to someone you love? How about to get physical healing for yourself?
2. What emotional effect can long-term pain and suffering have on a person? How about on family and friends?
3. Why would the sick woman be especially anxious to get healed? (Lev 15:25) What do we know about her? (8:43-44 and Mark 5:26)
4. How did Jesus know that someone touched him and was healed? Would you like to be able to touch Jesus' cloak and be healed? (Note: In Jesus' reply in verse 48, the Greek word for "healed" means "saved.")

5. Why did Jairus think that Jesus could help his dying daughter? (Luke 7:11-17) What did he want Jesus to do?

6. What commands did Jesus give before the girl was given new life? (Vs 8:50, 52, 54). Is there any significance to the order of these commands?

7. What is similar and different about the two healings? What is the most significant similarity? What does this mean to you?

8. For what people with long-term pain or other physical problems can you start to pray regularly?

9. What is the first thing Jesus did after calling the 12 apostles together? (Vs 9:1,2)

10. How much preparation and packing do you do before taking a long trip? Why do you think that Jesus sent the 12 apostles out with so few provisions? Do you think they found His instructions strange? What was their response? (Vs 9:6)

11. What were the Twelve to do if a town did not welcome them? (Vs 9:5)

12. What did Herod think of Jesus' healing and preaching? What did other rulers think of Jesus back then? How about today?

13. Why do you think that 22% of the U.S. population says that they would never under any circumstances vote for an evangelical Christian for president?

Ch. 9:10-27 (V. 10-17)

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

10 And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.

11 And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing.

12 And when the day began to wear away, then came the twelve, and said unto him, Send the multitude away, that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge, and get victuals: for we are here in a desert place.

13 But he said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they said, We have no more but five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy meat for all this people.

14 For they were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, Make them sit down by fifties in a company.

15 And they did so, and made them all sit down.

16 Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude.

17 And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.

Peter's Confession of Christ (V. 18-27)

18 And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?

19 They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again.

20 He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God.

21 And he straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing;

22 Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.

23 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

24 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

25 For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.

27 But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.

Study Questions

Ch. 9:10-27

1. Where had the disciples been? (Luke 9:6) What did they do when they returned? Why would they have wanted to be alone with Jesus?
2. In what situations do you really want to be alone (or with a small group of friends)? How do you feel when you are forced to be with a crowd?
3. What did the apostles want to do with the crowd? If you had been an apostle, how would you have reacted to the crowd's overwhelming need?
4. Why did Jesus say in Verse 13, "You give them something to eat"? Is this fair?
5. The feeding of the 5,000 is one of only three events recorded in all four Gospels (the others are Jesus' baptism and His death and resurrection). What does this tell you about it? Why is it so important?
6. What does Jesus' response to the crowd tell us about Him? What does it tell us about the disciples? What does it tell us about how we should live our lives? There are many deep lessons in this simple story; what are some of them?
7. Who did the crowds think Jesus was? How would you answer Jesus today if He asked, "Who do the crowds say I am?"
8. In what situations would you be uncomfortable in stating plainly that Jesus is the Messiah, the savior of the world, the son of God, and actually is God? Do you believe that absolutely, to your core, with every molecule of your body and brain?

9. Why do you suppose that Jesus strictly warned his disciples not to tell anyone about his heavenly identity?

10. What does it mean to you personally to “deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Jesus?” (Give a practical, real-world answer, not a spiritual, theological, la- dee-da answer.) How might you “lose your life for Jesus?”

11. Is there someone you can pray with for the purpose of denying yourself and following Jesus?

12. What celebrities or politicians seem to have “gained the whole world, yet lost their own soul?” How? Why?

13. What is the meaning of Verse 9:27 when Jesus says, “some standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God?”

Ch. 9:28-43

The Transfiguration

28 And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.

29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistening.

30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:

31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.

33 And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said.

34 While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.

35 And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.

36 And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.

Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy (V. 37-43)

37 And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him.

38 And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child.

39 And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.

40 And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not.

41 And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.

42 And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,

Study Questions

Luke 9:28-43

1. What special events in your life do you wish could have lasted forever?
2. Why did Jesus and the three disciples go up onto a mountain? (9:28)
3. What happened while Jesus was praying? Who else appeared and what did they do? What did these other men represent?
4. Peter, John, and James did not want to leave. Have you ever had such an inspiring experience that you wanted to stay where you were, away from reality and the problems of daily life? What are the problems with “staying on the mountain?” How should we regard and use “summit” experiences?

5. Why did Peter suggest that they build shelters? (Other Bible versions call them booths, huts, tents, or tabernacles.) What did Luke say about this idea? (9:33)

6. When else had God said similar words about Jesus as in Verse 9:35? What's the difference here? (Matthew 3:17, 2 Peter 1:17)

7. What might God want to say to us about Jesus today?

8. Why do you think the three disciples told no one about what they had seen that day?

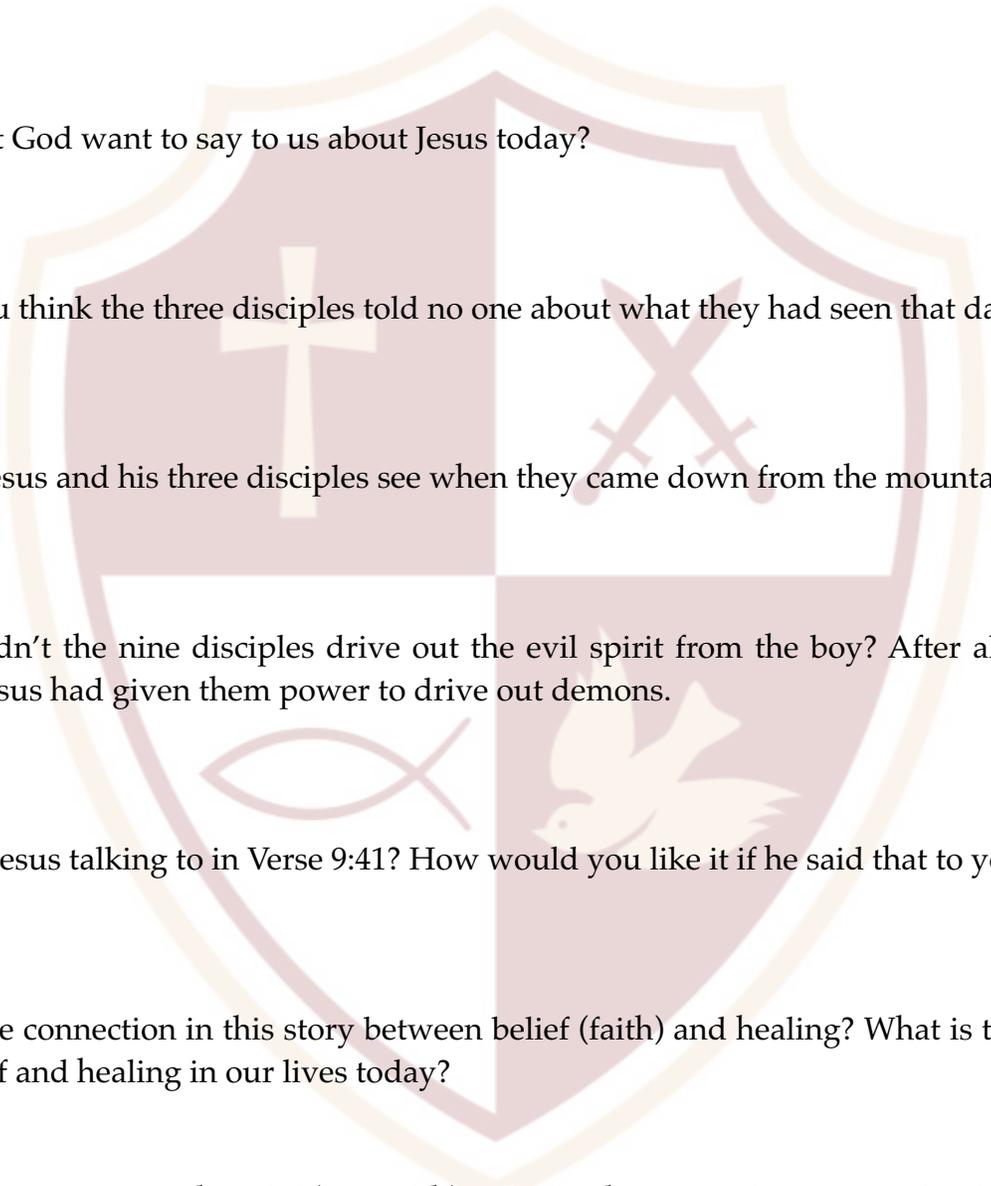
9. What did Jesus and his three disciples see when they came down from the mountain?

10. Why couldn't the nine disciples drive out the evil spirit from the boy? After all, just a short time before Jesus had given them power to drive out demons.

11. Who was Jesus talking to in Verse 9:41? How would you like it if he said that to you?

12. What is the connection in this story between belief (faith) and healing? What is the connection between belief and healing in our lives today?

13. How do people approach belief (and faith) today? What area of your unbelief Do you want to talk to God about this week?



Luke 9:43-62

43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,

44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.

45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

Who will be the Greatest (v. 46-50)

46 Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.

47 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him,

48 And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.

49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us.

50 And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us.

Samaritan Opposition (v. 51-56)

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

The Cost of Following Jesus(v. 57-62)

57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Study Questions

Ch. 9:43-62

1. How much did the disciples understand of what Jesus told them? (9:44-45) What could have kept understanding hidden from them?
2. Today, are there things that you don't understand about Jesus? What clouds your understanding? What can you do to make things clear and learn more?
3. About what were the disciples arguing in Verse 9:46?
4. What did Jesus use to reply to the disciples' argument about which of them would be greatest? What effect do you think the example had on them?
5. The message in the last sentence of Verse 9:48 is repeated many times in the New Testament. What does that mean? (Matthew 19:30, 20:16, Mark 9:35, 10:31, James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:4-6)
6. John changed the subject (9:49). Why? What reaction was John probably expecting from Jesus?
7. Jesus embraced the idea of teamwork in 9:50. What kind of teamwork is Jesus looking for today among his followers? How can you be more cooperative and foster a spirit of teamwork in your church or Christian small group?
8. Why didn't the Samaritans welcome Jesus? (9:53)

9. What did James and John want to do to the Samaritans? If you had been a disciple, what would you have suggested? How do you handle it when someone rejects you because of prejudice or for petty reasons?

10. What did Jesus do? Can you learn something from this? How can you avoid getting sidetracked by a desire for retaliation or getting even?

11. On group projects, what excuses do people give for avoiding or postponing fulfilling their obligations? Do you ever have conflicting obligations (or loyalties) say like going to church or taking your son to soccer practice? What do you do?

12. In light of Jesus' concern for family, why did he tell the second man not to go bury his father?

13. From these verses (9:57-62), how would you summarize the costs of following Jesus? If God loves us absolutely and wants us all to be saved, why are there such high costs (indeed, any costs) in following Jesus?

