

Lesson Seven

# Faithful to the End

Luke 18:1-21:38

Lesson 7 of 8

Through the Gospel of Luke

By

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# Small Group Discussion Time

Review of Lesson Six: Luke 13:1-17:37

## Group Guidelines

- ♥ We come from varying faith backgrounds, so please be thoughtful of denominational and religious differences.
- 📖 God's Word is our standard. We'll use the Bible - not personal opinion, popular teachers, or church tradition - as our guide for everything. We are using the English Standard Version (ESV) Bible for this study.
- 🕒 Avoid all commentaries or study notes in your Bible. Trust God, pray, ask for wisdom then read and answer on your own.
- 👉 We're all learning. Be gracious and patient with yourself and with others. No one has it all figured out.
- ✓ This isn't a personal opinion study. This is a Bible study. So, there are going to be "right" and "wrong" answers. Try your best and have a humble and teachable spirit.
- 🗣️ You don't have to share, but if you did the reading and the study this week, why not chime in? We all benefit from one another's thoughts and even questions. I bet you have something great to share! 😊
- 👂 Didn't finish the study this week? That's ok. Life gets busy. You're here! Yay you! This will be a good week for you to listen and perhaps jot down answers as others share.
- ⌚ Be considerate of your "slice of the pie" and how much time you are taking to talk. Share your thoughts, and allow time for others to do the same. Please save anecdotes and for social time. Guard your group time for the Word and learning.
- 🕒 Watch the time. Please return to our teaching session on time. (7:40pm for the evening group or 10:40am for the morning group)

1. Open in Prayer
2. Welcome new members 😊 *We're Glad You're Here!*
3. Circulate the Attendance Page & Prayer Journal
4. Review and Discuss the previous week's Bible study. Save other topics for later.

## To discuss and review...Do as many as time allows.

Discussion questions are marked with "\*\*\*\*" throughout the lesson. (See note on page 2 in the introduction pages.)

1. What is the message in Jesus' answer? (pg. 206, #13)
2. What does this parable say about God's expectations? (pg. 206, #21) and share your drawing too! 😊
3. For a person to even think to ask this question, he must have assumed at least two things (pg. 210, #21)
4. What is Jesus' response in Luke 13:32? (pg. 212, #3)
5. In Luke 13:32 Jesus gives a foreshadowing of what is to come....Discuss this passage and what you learned from understanding the Greek. (pg. 212, #4)
6. What is Jesus implying by talking in this way about His desires and lament for Jerusalem? (pg. 213, #16)
7. Consider the following verses, and jot your thoughts on what each says about humility... (pg. 215, #5)
8. When have we seen Jesus reply like this or similarly when someone needed to be redirected in their thinking? (pg. 216, #2)
9. What is Jesus saying? (pg. 220, #11)
10. Sum up the main idea in two words... (pg. 223, #1)
11. Make observations about the kind of shepherds the leaders of Israel have been and the response God has had. (pg. 224, #9)
12. In what way did each son miss out on the heart of their father? (pg. 225, #33)
13. How might this earlier teaching relate to the principle that Jesus is teaching in this parable? (pg. 227, #8)
14. Considering the shrewdness of an earthly manager who was dishonest...(pg. 228, #12)
15. What is Jesus' response to the Pharisees? (pg. 228, #18)
16. Was it his wealth that was the problem? (pg. 231, #13)
17. Does it seem odd or uncomfortable for you to consider rebuking...? (pg. 232, #24)
18. Before this light show, what two things must happen first? (pg. 237, #12)

*Need more? Our Mid-Session study meets next week at this same time. This session is a time dig deeper, discuss, complete a lesson with guidance and get answers to your questions. Join us!*

# Teaching Notes - Review of Lesson Six

My Heart, My All

Luke 13:1-17:37

...Notes...

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— Day One —

Read and take notes through Luke 18:1-19:48  
Today is an Active Reading Day

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# — Day Two —

Luke 18:1-17

... Open with Prayer ...

Didn't you love it when your teacher would give you the main idea of a chapter before the test? "Hey, kids, listen up, this chapter is all about Paul Revere's midnight ride." Even better was when a teacher gave not just the main point but what it meant: "You're going to want to know that Revere's ride is one of the reasons why we're no longer British colonies." Everyone would jot that down in their notes so they'd be ready for the test. And then the test would come and you wanted to see questions like: "What was this chapter all about?" and "Whose famous ride is the reason we're drinking coffee instead of tea all the time?" Instead, the teacher would come up with some cryptic question like: "Explain in 200 words or less the implications of Revere's ride and the sociological impact of the loss of tea imports on the burgeoning identities of the newly liberated colonies." Ha! Do you relate? Well, I imagine we might feel a bit like this as we read this opening verse in our study and then try to live out in real life what it means. Let's prayerfully enter our study time and trust the Holy Spirit to give us not just the insights to grasp what we're reading, but the maturity to apply Christ's words to our lives.

--> *Reminder, for this Bible study I am using the English Standard Version (ESV).*

## Read Luke 18:1-8

1. Unlike many parables, this teaching is explained right at the beginning. Write the meaning here:

| \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

*Well, there you have it. The plain meaning and the simple command. Always pray. Don't lose heart. Simple, right?*

2. Do you feel this is a simple thing to do? Why or why not? In your Christian walk, which aspect has been simple or more difficult? Why?

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3. Jesus uses extremes to illustrate His point. Describe the judge and the widow:

The Judge

The Widow

4. Jesus is painting a contrast.

If this \_\_\_\_\_, who is \_\_\_\_\_ (describe the unjust judge), will give this widow justice...

Will not \_\_\_\_\_, who is \_\_\_\_\_ (describe God) give you justice?

5. What does the widow ask for?

\_\_\_\_\_

*In Jesus' day, not unlike our own, widows were at severe risk for being outcast, marginalized, unheard, and left without any means of income. But, how widows are treated has long been God's measuring stick for the true faithfulness of His followers! In fact, God's people were to be characterized by the mercy and care they showed to the "widows and fatherless."*

6. **Read Exodus 22:22-23.** What law did God give His people? How seriously does He take this?

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7. In **Micah 6:8**, God describes what He sees as "good" behavior. Write the three things here:

| Do \_\_\_\_\_ Love \_\_\_\_\_ Walk \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are Jesus' disciples strangers to God? What wording of Jesus in this passage helps you know the answer? Write it here:

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As disciples, we are his elect. We may have chosen to follow Him, but He has chosen us. The Greek word translated "elect" is ἐκλεκτός (ek-lek-tos) which means plainly – chosen.

9. The apostle Paul speaks of this special place for God's chosen in Romans 8:31–33. What is the most encouraging part of these words to you? Write them here:

10. What is Jesus' expectation of His faithful disciples according to **Luke 18:7?**

His elect are the ones who: \_\_\_\_\_

*Underline "day" and "night" in your Bible and here in your answer.*

11. I think there may be no more important lesson in our Christian walk than to have the mind of Christ...to think like Jesus. As disciples, to see, believe, and act in the way that is as close to the heart and mind of Christ is essential. At the end of verse seven, Jesus asks a rhetorical question. Write it here:

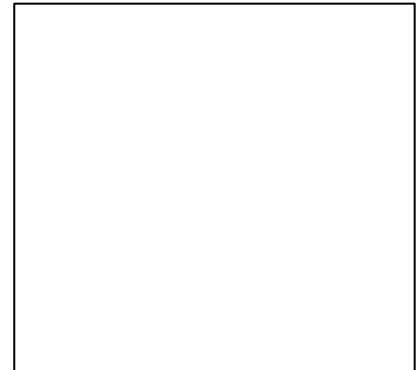
*Underline the word "delay." (here and in your Bible)*

*When we were kids, my mom would pull into the parking lot of a bank and before running in she'd say to my sisters and me, "I'll be back in two shakes of a lamb's tail." That was her way of saying I'll be back quickly. (This was also back in the good 'ol days when you could run into the bank and leave all your children in the car! Gasp!) To her I'm sure she was speedy, but to us in the car it felt more like 200 shakes of a lamb's tail! Unless my sisters and I were messing around, then she came back far too quickly...and we all got in trouble! Ha! Perspective, right? What seemed long to us was short to her.*

In verse eight, Jesus answers His rhetorical question. He says:

*Underline the word "speedily." (here and in your Bible)*

*In your Bible, go back and draw a connecting line to the words "delay" and "speedily." Connect: "always to pray" (v. 1) with "day and night" (v. 7). When you feel God delays, go back, and remember that He is answering "speedily." Are you praying "day and night?" Are you "always praying?" Ask the Father to give you His mind, His heart, His hourglass! He's answering in "two shakes of a lamb's tail." Draw a picture of God's Hourglass to help you remember to trust in His timing.*



12. Jesus concludes with a final question in verse eight. Write it here:

13. \*\*\*What do you think the answer to this question is considering what Jesus has been teaching in this passage? For Jesus to "find faith on earth", what will His disciples need to be doing?

**Read Luke 18:9-14**

14. How does Jesus describe the behaviors of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector? What character traits do they each demonstrate? What acts of goodness – if any – do they claim?

The Pharisee

The Tax Collector

15. What is the tax collector's specific request of God? (v. 13)

16. What does Jesus declare about his position with God? (v. 14a) Write His exact words:

*Underline the word "justified" and connect it in your Bible with the words "be merciful."*

17. The idea of being made "justified" is an important one to grasp. What had Jesus warned back in **Luke 12:59**? "You will never get out until you have \_\_\_\_\_."

*His warning was to make sure you have settled with your accuser (the Law) before the magistrate (Jesus) unless you have to be taken to court and speak before the ultimate judge (God.)*

18. What made this tax collector justified? \_\_\_\_\_

19. By contrast, what do you think the Pharisee thought would make him justified?

**20. Read Titus 3:5.**

- What has Jesus NOT saved us by? \_\_\_\_\_
- We are saved according to \_\_\_\_\_

*(Underline the word "mercy" here and in your Bible. Make a note in your Bible to connect Titus 3:5 and Luke 18:13-14)*

21. This "sinner" had said two things, while the religious man had spoken his list of "good deeds." What two things had the tax collector said that put him in right standing (made him justified) before God?

He asked God to be \_\_\_\_\_ to him and he declared that he was a \_\_\_\_\_.

22. Jesus then wraps up the parable in the closing of verse 14. Write His words here:

What word is the key character trait marking the between the Pharisee and the Tax Collector?

**Read Luke 18:15-17**

23. What do these verses tell you about the heart of Jesus?

24. What is Jesus' warning in verse 17?

25. What are the characteristics of children He was referring to?

26. \*\*\*Based on today's reading in **Luke 18:1-17**, make a list of behaviors and character traits that a true Christ follower should have. Then make a list of character traits that are true of God and Jesus:

Disciple

Jesus/God

...In Closing...

*God is certainly not like this unjust judge, but when we aren't getting our prayers answered don't we tend to start feeling like maybe He is? This is why it is so important for us to know the true character of God. When I was in high school, a "mean girl" started a terrible rumor about me. It spread quickly and gained some steam over the weekend. On Monday, I pulled into the school lot and was surprised to be greeted by a bunch of my friends. "Have you heard?"... "Do you know what's*



going on?" I hadn't heard. I had no idea. My best friend stood up and spelled it out. This girl had started a rumor about me, but no one was believing it because they all knew me and my character. The rumor may have burned through the school, but my character as an honorable person had provided the damage control and the rumor ended with no harm done to me. Do you know the true character of God? If you do, when you're tempted to view Him as an unjust judge while you wait for your prayers to be heard, the truth of who God is will anchor your heart in reality. If you are uncertain of His character and His thoughts toward you, then you're likely to give up praying, get angry, doubt your faith or doubt God's view of you...or all of these! Jesus admonishes us today to be faithful in prayer. Paul said, "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17.) This doesn't mean we give up our jobs and become religious recluses so we can pray and pray and pray. But it does mean that we, like the persistent widow, should pray faithfully without giving up. If our lives are characterized by the good deeds we do, expecting God to do our bidding, then we are like the Pharisee. And rather than having our prayers heard, we will leave the prayer time unheard. Instead, we must be like the Tax Collector characterized by child-like humility and recognizing our need for mercy. Maybe you have been praying for a long time for a loved one. Maybe you have been asking God for healing. Maybe you have prayed and prayed for a friend's salvation. Sister, today is the day to trust in the character of God and to continue to be faithful. Take time in your closing prayer today to ask the Father to increase your faith and your patience along with your trust in Him that He is a good Father who is not "slow in keeping His promises" but is faithful. Align your prayers with the character and will of God and keep on praying!

## — Day Three —

Luke 18:18-43

... Open with Prayer ...

If I were to sum up Luke 18:1-17 in three unasked questions, I'd say:

- 1) What must we do to be heard by God? (like a persistent widow)
- 2) What must we do to be justified before God? (like a tax collector)
- 3) What must we do to receive the kingdom of God? (like a child)

Today's reading begins with a question right off the bat! It's a question that any seeking person should know the answer to!

### Read Luke 18:18-30

1. What is this man's question? \_\_\_\_\_
2. This isn't the first time Jesus has answered this question. Compare Luke 10:25-28 and Luke 18:18-21  
What similar answers do these men give?  
| \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does this man call Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why do you think he calls Jesus "good?"  
| \_\_\_\_\_
5. Before answering his question, Jesus questions him and then redirects him with statement of truth.  
Jesus' question: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jesus' statement: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Who is someone you consider "good?" Mother Teresa? Gandhi? Your grandmother? Write their name here: \_\_\_\_\_
7. According to **Luke 18:19**, who did Jesus consider good? \_\_\_\_\_ Any exceptions? \_\_\_\_.

*It's an important point Jesus is making which will become more clear as He continues to teach. This man had his hopes in his personal goodness. He saw Jesus as good as well. Jesus is here to turn this thinking around.*

8. What claim does this man make in verse 21? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What does Jesus tell him he still must do? (v. 22)

10. \*\*\*Contrast this man's response with Peter's in **Luke 5:8-11**

Rich Ruler

Peter

11. Note that this man isn't just "sad" – he was \_\_\_\_\_ sad; and he wasn't just "rich" – he was \_\_\_\_\_ rich. Do you think there's a connection between the degree of his sadness and the degree of his richness? Explain:

I think his degree of sadness means something significant. It reveals the degree of lostness of his heart which was "very" and "extremely." If I lost my sweet Lucy LooLoo – the world's cutest, wonderfulest, fluffiest, poodliest, poodle – I'd be super sad. Why? Because she has a place in my heart. Jesus has taught that what we treasure is the what will hold our heart. Honestly, I think this rich man really thought his question was rhetorical. I think he already thought of himself on the same level as Jesus, and he already thought he knew the answer. He was simply asking the question for the benefit and glory of all those within his hearing. I'm sure he expected a gold star after his encounter with Jesus:

- Mr. Rich Ruler: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Jesus: "Why, nothing at all, you wonderful ruler. You've done so much already! Here's your star!"
- Mr. Rich Ruler: (nods and smiles and receives congratulatory pats on his back from those around him) "Thank you, thank you very much." (in his best Elvis voice)

12. What does this ruler's response tell you about his heart, what he loves, values, hopes in, etc.?

13. Not only does the ruler get a shocking and disturbing answer, those listening seem shocked and disturbed. If anyone could earn salvation, this righteous, observant, ruler could have! What do they ask, and what does their question imply about their mindset and the condition of their hearts? (Luke 18:26)

14. What does Jesus say in response? Write verse 27 here:

*Jesus' answer isn't very encouraging, not really. Oh, it might be if you take it out of context and slap it on a magnet for your fridge. I've seen it before. Do a Google image search on this verse, and you'll see all sorts of cute frameable versions of this verse. So, if you're just reaching for motivational verses and come across this one, you might be tempted to think of your personal "impossible" situation and go ahead and pull a "name it and claim it" move on this verse. "Hey, look, with God I can do the impossible...earn that big commission check, see my child healed, get along with my grumpy boss, lose that last 15lbs, etc." But that's not how this works. That's not how any of this works. The context of this verse is Jesus' answering a very specific question and outlining a very direct answer. The subject isn't you succeeding in meeting a goal and accomplishing something you feel is "impossible." The context is about inheriting or not inheriting eternal life. The subject is your eternal destiny. The topic is salvation.*

15. Peter is ready for his gold star. What does he say to this man? Paraphrase Peter's comment:

16. Jesus wraps things up affirming what truth? Paraphrase His words in verses 29-30:

**Read Luke 18:31-34**

- 17. Once again, Jesus foretells his death. Actually, this is the \_\_\_\_\_ time.
- 18. List the order of events Jesus spells out for them in v. 32-33 (at least seven events)
- 19. \*\*\*Do the disciples grasp what He is saying? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain:

**Read Luke 18:35-43**

- 20. Locate Jericho on your map, and note where it is in relation to Jerusalem.  
About how many miles to go? \_\_\_\_\_ You can do a web search for “how many miles from Jericho to Jerusalem” for the exact distance and a clear map. About how long do you think it would take to walk from Jericho to Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_. *Jericho is by the Dead Sea and is below sea level. From Jericho to Jerusalem is an uphill climb the entire way.*
- 21. Describe how the blind man attempts to engage with Jesus. (Luke 18:35-39) What actions, emotions, responses to you see?
- 22. How did the blind man know there was something going on? (v. 36) \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. The crowd answers his question, and then he cries out. By what names is Jesus identified in this passage?
  - By the crowd: \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 37)
  - By the blind man: \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 38 and v. 39)
  - By the blind man: \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 41)
- 24. How does the crowd respond to the man? Why do you think they respond this way?
- 25. Instead of quieting down, what does the man do?
  - How does he name Jesus? (again) \_\_\_\_\_  
*Son of David is a messianic title. No regular teacher would be referred to in this way. If Jesus wasn't the Son of David, He would have rebuked the man for identifying Him like this. But He doesn't.*
  - What does he ask of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
*Mercy could come in many forms: money, food, shelter. All of those could be provided by any good person – even someone in the crowd.*
- 26. Recall who else has asked for and received – or not received – mercy:
  - Luke 16:24 \_\_\_\_\_ Received mercy? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 17:13 \_\_\_\_\_ Received mercy? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 18:13 \_\_\_\_\_ Received mercy? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What common trait do you see in those who receive mercy? \_\_\_\_\_
- 27. What does Jesus ask him? (Lk 18:41) \_\_\_\_\_
- 28. The man names Jesus as Lord and asks for what? \_\_\_\_\_
- 29. Jesus responds by granting his request and saying why he gets his answer. What does Jesus say?:  
“ \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ ” (v. 42)  
The Greek word translated “recover your sight” is actually one strong word meaning literally: “SEE!”  
Picture this: Jesus simply speaks, “See!” to this poor man and BOOM! HE SEES!
  - Recall, that this is more than a reference to physical healing. Each of these received physical healing as well as spiritual healing. New earthly life – Eternal Heavenly life.

- Note also, that it is not faith that caused the miracle. Jesus caused the miracle. Their faith was the reason why the miracle could happen.
- Read **Psalm 33** and note the power of God's spoken word.
- Compare that with **John 1:1** "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word \_\_\_\_\_." Who was/is the Word? \_\_\_\_\_ (This will come up again in our study!)

30. \*\*\*What does this encounter teach us about who Jesus is? Use the blind man's own words as well as Jesus' actions to support your answer:

|

### ...In Closing...

It's interesting, isn't it? This blind man was able to see even though he couldn't see. He could see the truth of who Jesus was even though the crowd and the disciples, who had sight, couldn't see what Jesus was going to do in Jerusalem. Before this miraculous encounter (the last miracle in His journey to Jerusalem), Jesus had for the third time told the disciples what was going to happen to Him there. He told them again that He was the one who would be fulfilling the prophecies of the Messiah. But it was a blind man who saw Jesus – the Messiah – the Son of David, the one from whom not just mercy could be received but healing and salvation. As you conclude your time in the Word today, thank God for your physical sight and pray for deeper spiritual sight. Pray that Jesus would have mercy on you and that your requests of Him would be elevated from mundane to profound. That you would seek true healing and insight.

## — Day Four —

Luke 19:1-10

... Open with Prayer ...

Sandwiched between the encounter with the Rich Ruler and The Parable of the Ten Minas is the story that for those of us who attended Sunday School growing up is one of the most familiar of all of Jesus' encounters. The story of Zacchaeus - "the Wee Little Man" - even has its own sweet song. (Here's a link to a cute rendition: <https://youtu.be/bkd-QFD7vMA>) As sweet as this story is for a child, it is a very grown up story. It is simple and it is profound. It's the kind of story we all really should have. We're all Zacchaeus. Read and see yourself today...

### Read Luke 19:1-10

1. Where does this encounter take place? \_\_\_\_\_



#### Note About Jericho

*This location was a rebuild and a on different location than the Jericho you may recall from "The Walls Came Tumbling Down" story of the Old Testament (Joshua 6.) Jericho was the city before Jerusalem and was therefore a prime location for tax collecting. Herod's son, Archelaus, was the ruler of this region. Before he was given the rule, he went up to Rome to ask for it, but the people of Jericho had sent a delegation to protest his appointment. They hated him. However, Caesar did give him the rule, but being political about it, he didn't let him have the title of king. Instead, Archelaus was called an*

*"ethnarch" (Ruler of the People.) Archelaus was despised by the Jews and probably disrespected at the very least by the Romans. He was harsh and evil. At the first Passover after he was seated as ruler, he had about 3,000 of his subjects massacred. He had built a magnificent palace and an aqueduct for irrigation in Jericho. These details aren't just interesting; they will play a part in your understanding of this encounter but of the parable to come in Luke 17:11-27*

2. From **Luke 19:2-3** jot down some details to describe Zacchaeus (his appearance, behavior, occupation, etc.)  
|
3. Did you note that he wasn't just a tax collector, he was the \_\_\_\_\_ tax collector? We already know how the people felt about tax collectors, so what might this imply about how the crowds felt about Zacchaeus?  
|
4. Describe how this short man attempts to engage with Jesus. What actions, emotions, responses to you see? (Luke 19:2-4)  
|
5. Go back and review your answer to question 20 from Day Three. What interesting parallels do you see in these encounters? Describe:  
|

6. Jesus takes note of Zacchaeus –  
...Pause...

*Before we consider what Jesus says and how this all plays out, stop and turn your camera to the crowds. Jericho has emptied and all are clamoring to see who is coming into this bustling trade city. Many are coming along after just having seen the blind man healed. They've been glorifying God! They are still buzzing from that miracle. Perhaps the blind man is still joyfully skipping along with the crowd, tagging along with Jesus as His newest, freshest, joyfulest disciple – touching and seeing the Jericho sights for the first time and now this. Jesus stops to greet a tax collector. A dirty, begging blind man is one thing – maybe he was innocent and his blindness was just a sad and undeserved part of his life, but this guy is a tax collector and not just a regular collector - the chief! No. No. No! This guy chose his profession! He's the lowest of the low. He's a betrayer of the Jews. He is not worthy to be considered a son of Abraham! The crowd is horrified, disgusted, perhaps mocking Zacchaeus because they all knew him and his sleazy, money-grubbing ways...besides, he's short! Ok, with that in your mind, unpause and return to question six...*

...and tells him to do what? \_\_\_\_\_ But not just "come down." He adds a sense of urgency! What does He say? \_\_\_\_\_! Why?  
What does Jesus say He "must" do today? \_\_\_\_\_  
*-- Honored above ALL! -- Zacchaeus, the wee, little, man, was not wee or little in Jesus' eyes! He was precious and loved and worthy of being sought and found!*

7. How does Zacchaeus respond? (v. 6) Three ways:
  - H \_\_\_\_\_
  - C \_\_\_\_\_
  - R \_\_\_\_\_ Him J \_\_\_\_\_
8. How does the crowd respond when they see all this happen? (v. 7)  
|
9. Compare their reaction with those who saw the blind man healed. (Luke 18:43)  
|

10. Zacchaeus must have been pretty short! Luke makes a point of saying that he stood before he spoke to the Lord (just in case anyone thought maybe he was still sitting down!) What does Zacchaeus say? And what does this say about his heart?
11. Shock of all shockers! A rich man has done what?? Go back and review what the crowds asked in **Luke 18:26**. What did they ask and what was it in response to?
12. In **Luke 18:27**, Jesus had said what about this apparently impossible situation?
13. And yet, here we have Zacchaeus, the least likely person to “be saved” in the crowd’s view, and he is the one about whom Jesus says, what in **Luke 19:9**?
14. \*\*\*Does the fact that Jesus said, “salvation has come” mean that Zacchaeus had earned his salvation? Did Zacchaeus’ good works save him or are his good works an indication of the state of his heart? Explain:
15. The Jews took great pride in their ancestry. Recall John the Baptist’s words and warning in **Luke 3:8-9**. Who did he warn them NOT to bank on as giving them special privileges: \_\_\_\_\_  
*And yet, they still do, and we know this because of Jesus’ response in **Luke 19:9b-10**.*
16. Zacchaeus was hated not just because he was a tax collector but because, as a Jew, he was betraying his people, taking advantage of them, being used by Rome for evil! The Jews considered these tax collectors to be as if they were dead to Judaism. Lost. Gone. Unredeemable. Out of the center of blessing. And yet, in **Luke 19:9**, **Jesus assures him of what?** (Note Jesus specific word choice and how this must have been a zing to the heart of the self-righteous crowd.)

*This is not the first time, or the last, that Jesus has assured someone who was the least likely of their position under the grace and mercy of heaven. As we continue in our study, make note in your Bible of any other people who are the surprised recipients of the grace and mercy of God.*

17. Jesus sums up this teaching with a beautiful reminder of His purpose. We know He has stated His purpose over and over again since Luke 4:43, but here He opens up that purpose and reveals the heart: **Write Luke 19:10 and memorize it:**
18. Zacchaeus was lost - a seeker - but lost nonetheless. Jesus sought him, found him, saved him. In the following parables who/what is...

	<u>Jesus/God</u>	<u>Zacchaeus</u>	<u>Crowd</u>
<b>Luke 15:3-7</b>			
<b>Luke 15:8-10</b>			
<b>Luke 15:11-32</b>			

## ...In Closing...

*I love how Jesus sought and found an opportunity to prove His point to the crowds who had heard Him say that, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." After the self-righteous, rich, ruler left sad – very sad – and the crowds pouted about no one being able to be saved if this guy can't, we meet Zacchaeus. Wealthy Zacchaeus who had led a stingy, stealing, self-seeking life gets to receive not only Jesus into his home, but into his very life. While the wealthy, but self-righteous ruler gets nothing of eternal value because he clung to his wealth. At some point, his soul was asked of him and, like the rich man begging for Lazarus to bring him water, he is now in hell. He has nothing but eternal torment. In contrast, Zacchaeus gets everything. Zacchaeus may have lost it all in an earthly respect - surely his Roman bosses would have been displeased with his new life and the revenue loss – but he has gained his very soul. What was impossible for that rich ruler was possible through God in the life of Zacchaeus – salvation. What was the difference? Their hearts. I pray that we would not be so interested in hanging on to that which is perishing that we cannot embrace that which will never perish. One day, those of us who have likewise "received Him joyfully," will meet Him – and Zacchaeus – in heaven. There are many songs and hymns that sing the joyful truth of how it feels to be lost...and then to be found. Here are a two of my favorites:*

### **Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

(Stanzas 3 & 4)

Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood;  
How His kindness yet pursues me  
Mortal tongue can never tell,  
Clothed in flesh, till death shall loose me  
I cannot proclaim it well.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

### **Amazing Grace**

(Stanzas 1 & 2)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed.

# — Day Five —

Luke 19:11-27

... Open with Prayer ...

**Before you begin:** We are using the ESV translation for this Bible study. You'll read "minas" throughout this lesson, while in other translations you'll read "pounds." Also, you may be familiar with a parable in Matthew's gospel of the "talents." This is a different parable with a different meaning, so be careful not to confuse the two.

**Review Luke 19:11-27 and have your Active Reading notes handy as you complete today's lesson.**

1. **Luke 19:11** "As they heard these things..." What "things" had they been hearing? (Hint: read the context and remember there were no chapter or verse numbers when Luke first wrote the gospel.)

Jesus tells this parable and, like in the Parable of the Widow, He introduces it with two reasons:

Because... \_\_\_\_\_

Because... \_\_\_\_\_

What's going to happen in Jerusalem that motivates Jesus to tell this parable? (Hint: Luke 18:31-33)

2. What have the disciples or crowds said or done that show they "supposed the kingdom of God was to appear immediately"? (Hint: Luke 17:20-21)

3. So, this parable then should prompt our minds to be thinking what about...

➤ Jesus and His destiny in Jerusalem:

➤ The kingdom of God and when it is coming:

4. **Luke 19:12** The nobleman is...

...going to a \_\_\_\_\_ to receive a \_\_\_\_\_ and then he is \_\_\_\_\_

By definition, what is a **nobleman**? \_\_\_\_\_

Underline "nobleman" in your Bible.

The Greek word is "ἄνθρωπος εὐγενής" (*anthropos eugenays*)

5. **Luke 19:13** What does the nobleman do?

He gives ten \_\_\_\_\_ ten \_\_\_\_\_ and tells them to " \_\_\_\_\_ until I come."

A servant in this parable would have been a highly-entrusted worker.

About how much was a mina worth? \_\_\_\_\_ (Use your Bible or an internet search.)

By definition, what does a **servant** do? \_\_\_\_\_

Underline "servants" in your Bible.

By implication: Whose mina was it to begin with? \_\_\_\_\_

Whose property were the servants living on while they were entrusted with the mina? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything mentioned in the story indicating that the servants had done something to deserve the mina? \_\_\_\_\_



6. **Luke 19:14** But...

Who hate him? \_\_\_\_\_ Whose citizens are they? \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12)

Does the parable give any reason for why they hate the nobleman? \_\_\_\_\_

What do they try to do? \_\_\_\_\_

*Interesting: What historical account should this be reminding his hearers (and you as well) of at this point? (Hint: the "Note About Jericho" on page 251) \_\_\_\_\_*

Why had the citizens hated Archelaus? \_\_\_\_\_

By definition, what are **citizens**? \_\_\_\_\_

Underline "citizens" in your Bible.

7. **Luke 19:15** What has happened to the nobleman during his absence? \_\_\_\_\_

Unlike Archelaus, who was granted rule, but not kingship, the nobleman is given kingship.

By definition, if you have received the kingdom, you are its: \_\_\_\_\_

Underline "kingdom" in your Bible.

8. **Luke 19:15** When the nobleman returns as king, what does he want to know? What did he expect to have happened in his absence?

How does this correlate to Jesus' words in the Parable of the Widow? **Luke 18:8**

9. **\*\*\*Luke 19:16-27** How do the reports go?

	<u>Report/Response</u>	<u>Nobleman's Response</u>	<u>Reward/Punishment</u>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Servant</b>			
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Servant</b>			
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Servant</b>			
<b>Those who stood by</b>			
<b>Enemies</b> (who didn't want him to reign)			

10. Go back and make note of what each servant said about the mina and how he addresses the nobleman:

Servant #1 (19:16) Lord,  mina has \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Servant #2 (19:18) Lord,  mina has \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Servant #3 (19:20) Lord, here is  mina...

What do you notice about the different responses these servants have

11. How many servants were entrusted with minas? \_\_\_\_\_ How many were faithful with it? \_\_\_\_\_

Do the math on that. That's 2/10 or 20% or 1/5 or...you get the picture.

Were the majority faithful or unfaithful? \_\_\_\_\_ What about the other seven? The fact that Jesus makes no mention of them is your answer. What about them? Not much. They are not worthy to be given story credit. They're just as unfaithful or mediocre as this third servant.

12. How does this parable correlate with the answer Jesus gave when He was asked, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" **Luke 13:22-30**

**Now, let's take some time to go back and digest this parable:**

*This is a picture of Jesus and his return. He is with the disciples now as the nobleman, but upon his return he will come as a king. Before He leaves, He graciously gives resources and has expectations that they be used wisely. Few do. But are rewarded generously. They hadn't done anything to deserve the minas in the first place, and now they are rewarded with more minas as well as cities to rule. The unfaithful have an attitude problem. Not only have they been lazy with their resources, they have been wasteful. They had time to invest and make a difference but they had a lack of concern for the master's rule. Then on His return they tried to blame Him! The nerve! If they had truly felt He was so severe, surely they would have done the bare minimum to get something done while He was away. But they show an utter lack of effort. As a result, they lose everything. Then, the nobleman calls an accounting from His enemies. These are the citizens of His kingdom who tried to stop Him from the beginning. They were never interested in his reign, they hated Him. As a result, they are killed. Jesus is clarifying that the kingdom is indeed coming, but He'll be leaving and returning before it is finally and fully here. While they wait, there is work to be done and not everyone – in fact very few – will be truly faithful.*

*...In Closing...*

This parable is picture of grace, and generosity, and undeserved reward. It is a reminder that, as disciples, we have been given what we never deserved, and when we're faithful with it we'll be given even more – and none of that will be truly deserved either. The Bible says, "the cattle on a thousand hills belong unto the Lord" (Psalm 50), and that "all good gifts are from above, from the Father" (James 1), and that "the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus" (Romans 6)...all we have, all we can expect, all we will ever need is from God, and it is free to us. This doesn't mean it was costless for God to provide it. It cost Him His Son. It won't be costless to keep it, it will cost us the faithfulness of true discipleship, of denying ourselves, of "hearing and doing" God's will. But still, it is God's lavish grace, His abundance and generosity in bringing us the kingdom that we read in this parable. *But, what about those who were slaughtered in the end of the parable? That doesn't seem very lavish to me.* Sister, if this is how you feel - and I can understand that some of you might – then you are thinking with Martha's heart. You are not thinking like Mary. You are worried about unnecessary things. (Luke 10:42.) Choose today to be faithful in what you have been given. Choose today to be serve the coming King. Choose to take what has been given freely to you and to sit at Jesus' feet, listen to Him, and do what He calls you to do. This is what it means to be in the kingdom of God. These are the disciples who will be welcomed as "good and faithful" servants in the coming kingdom and rule with Jesus when He returns.

# — Day Six —

Luke 19:28-48

... Open with Prayer ...

Read **Luke 19:29-48** and for more details, read **Mark 11:1-11** and for background, enjoy John's account in **John 12:1-19**. All of these accounts will help us grasp the scene as Jesus moves toward the cross.

1. **Luke 19:28-29** Locate on your map the places mentioned in these verses. *Note: "Olivet" and "Mount of Olives" are the same place.*

Do you recall who lived in Bethany? Read **Luke 10:38** and **John 12:1** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Bethany is where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11.) Today it is named el-Azariyeh, which is Arabic for "place of Lazarus" and is located in the West Bank. Bethpage was a tiny neighbor, so small in fact, that its exact whereabouts have been lost to history. Now, Jesus' request puts it in timeline of events.*

2. \*\*\***Luke 19:30-35** What does Jesus instruct the two disciples to do?

Read **Zechariah 9:9** What does this prophecy say will happen? How does Jesus fulfill this prophecy?

3. **Luke 19:36-38** – The crowd has grown in size and enthusiasm. What are they doing and shouting?

Matthew and John record other interesting details that help us see all that was happening. What detail do you read in **Matthew 21:8**?

And in **John 12:13**?

4. Read **Psalms 118:19-27** and note any connections you see from this psalm to the occasion of Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem as well as the events to come. Highlight the words from Psalm 118 the people are shouting and highlight these same words in Luke 19.

*Is this the Savior? Is everything going to be alright? It is so exciting to see that 500 years before Jesus came riding through Jerusalem, His humble and celebrated entry was predicted!*

5. **Luke 19:39-40**

Where are the Pharisees when they speak to Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
Then, what must Jesus have been still doing? \_\_\_\_\_

What do they tell Jesus to do? Write their words in ALL CAPS:

Why would they (the Pharisees) see the need for Jesus to be rebuked? What "rebukable" situation is happening? (*Think about what the people are shouting and what implications that had.*)

Honestly, I can't help but feel the humor in this encounter. Sad, yes, but there's humor in Jesus' engagements with them. The Pharisees do not get it. But, go back and re-read these verses. This time as you're reading, I'd like you to imagine the Pharisees not just speaking their request, but having to literally shout it to Jesus at the top of their lungs over the shouts of **"Blessed is the King! Hosanna! Peace in heaven! Glory in the Highest!"** All the while, Jesus is bumping along on the back of that sweet little donkey. This is why I wanted you to write their words in all caps! It's sad, but Jesus is enjoying the ride and letting them know with joy and with a warning that...

Write His exact words:

Underline "if these were silent" and the word "stones" here and in your Bible.

"Cry out" is from the Greek "κράζω" (crakow!) meaning literally the sound a crow makes. It's a shrieking call of nature! It's the natural response – Peter "cried out" when he was sinking, the blind man "cried out" when he called to Jesus, the Son of David. You have no idea who you're talking to, Pharisees! I gave you your voice when I spoke the world into existence. If these people are silent, the stones will cry out! And surely, if those stones could, they would have - in praise of Who was now come and in agony over what was to come. If these people were silent? What happens in just a few short days? These people who are shouting their praises will indeed become silent. Silent from Monday through Friday until...their silence will become shouts again, but shouts of death. Sigh.

#### Read Luke 19:41-44

- Underline every reference to "you" or "your" in these verses. How many did you find? \_\_\_\_ And in verse 44, underline "stone." Draw a line in your Bible, if possible, to connect the words "stones" (19:40) and "stone" (19:44.) The abundance of Jesus' use of "you" and "your" is an indication of the passion in His cry.
- Why is Jerusalem so special? What is it about this city that has Him so devastated? What had He said earlier about Jerusalem in **Luke 13:34-35**?

#### **Jerusalem's history can be traced back to the beginning of God's covenant with the children of Abraham!**

- It is where Abram was blessed by Melchizedek, the king of Salem and the priest of God Most High (Genesis 14:17-20.) Melchizedek is later compared to Jesus – Jesus is a "better high priest" (Hebrews 7:15ff.)
- It is where God provided a sacrifice for Abraham and Abraham proved his obedience to God (Genesis 22:14.)
- It is King David's city and the city of Solomon's Temple.
- It is the city for which the psalmist cries, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!" in Psalm 122.

- Luke 19:41** To whom is Jesus speaking in these verses? \_\_\_\_\_  
Jesus personifies the city as if it could hear Jesus' lament. He personified her (the city) by giving her ears to hear. Notice back in Luke 19:40 that Jesus has personified Jerusalem there as well. Not so obviously, but how so? (Hint: if the stones can cry out, what do they have?)

The Greek word translated "stones" in Luke 19:40 and Luke 19:44 is "λίθος" (lithos) and means a cut stone, like a cornerstone of a building, or millstone. From what were Jerusalem's walls hewn? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes! Stone, just like this. So, when Jesus is speaking of the stones crying out in verse 40, He's not just being poetic or dramatic...He's being prophetic.

- Luke 19:41** There are two times in Jesus' life that the gospel writers record Him weeping. This is one of them. Why does Jesus weep?

The Greek word translated "he wept" is "ἐκλαυσεν" (eklausen) which is no calm, contained cry. It means an "uncontainable, audible, wailing, grief" The other time that Jesus wept was for Lazarus, Mary's brother, who had died (John 11:35.) The word used then was "δακρῶν" (dakruo) which means "to shed quiet (actual) tears; to weep silently (with tears)."

10. **Luke 19:42b** Jesus laments that Jerusalem – whose name ironically means “will see (or *provides*) peace” – has not known what? \_\_\_\_\_ And will not know what? \_\_\_\_\_ And to this day, Jerusalem indeed has been the center of more struggle than any other place on earth.
11. When will Jerusalem know peace? Will it ever? What does **Revelation 21:1-4** say about Jerusalem?

12. **Luke 19:43-44** What kind of destruction is described in these verses?

*In 70 AD, Jerusalem is leveled. These tragic, prophetic, lamenting words of Jesus are fulfilled. The Jewish historian Josephus wrote: "While the sanctuary was burning (the temple) neither pity for age, nor request for rank was shown. On the contrary. Children and old people, laity and priests alike were massacred. The emperor ordered the entire city and temple to be razed to the ground, leaving only the highest towers and the portion of the wall on the west. All the rest of the wall was so completely razed as to leave future visitors to the spot no reason to believe that the city had ever been inhabited."*

*Does this help you grasp why Jesus was so overcome with grief? Jesus knew the future that lay ahead for Jerusalem. He knew that in 40 years, some of the children scampering alongside Him, would be dead. He knew that the young twenty-something mothers following along and cheering their hosannas would be fearing for their lives and the lives of their grandchildren. He could see it all. All the horror, the bloodshed.*

13. \*\*\***Luke 19:44** (the final phrase) What did Jerusalem not know?

*Underline the word “visitation.”*

And yet, going back to Luke chapter one and reading Zechariah’s prophecy what do we see?

Read **Luke 1:67-79** They did know! What had Zechariah prophesied? (v. 68 and v. 78 esp.)

(Note the word “visit” or “visited” – it’s the same word!)

**Read Luke 19:45-48** along with Matthew 21:12-16 and Mark 11:15-18 for the complete account of this temple cleansing. Jesus actually cleared the temple two times

14. **Read John 2:13-17**

When does this cleansing out take place? (v. 13) \_\_\_\_\_

What do His disciples remember about this in prophecy? (v. 17)

What else did you think was interesting about this account in John’s gospel?

15. **Luke 19:45-46** What is Jesus’ accusation against them?

16. Jesus quotes **Isaiah 56:7**. Luke omits the final three words which say,

“\_\_\_\_\_.” Luke’s is the most abbreviated of the gospel accounts, so there’s no significant reason for the omission. But Matthew includes the words.

17. Who was Jesus speaking to the last time He used the phrase, “It is written.”? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Hint: Luke chapter 4)

18. **Luke 19:47-48** What does Jesus do and how do they react?

Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

The People \_\_\_\_\_

*Underline the word “destroy” in your Bible. This is powerful language. Luke could have written that they were seeking to “stop” Him or “get rid of Him” or “silence” Him...but he chose the word “destroy.” It’s the same word that Matthew used when Herod sought to destroy Jesus when He was born.*

19. It’s quite a contrast that Jesus goes from clearing out the temple to teaching daily in it. But what does this say about the heart of Jesus?

20. Consider this account of teaching in the temple with His first in **Luke 2:46-49**

As we move forward in our study, we’ll get to listen in on these days of teaching!

...In Closing...

Jesus began and is now ending His ministry by teaching in the Temple. His heart is clearly passionate that all would know the truth. He is showing His perfect kindness and also His perfect in holiness. We see His precious compassion and his judgment as well. Jesus cannot tolerate sin. In our culture, we have become accustomed to making allowances for people’s immorality under the name of “tolerance.” There are no allowances with God like this. Sin is sin. Homosexuality, abortion, adultery, murder, stealing, gossip, legalistic self-righteousness...all sin. No allowances. We will all one day bow before Him, either as our judge by whom our sins have been forgiven, or as our judge by whom our sins will condemn us. Throughout His ministry, and even today, Jesus would be known as Savior. He came to seek and save the lost. My prayer for you is that you would know Him as Savior and not as Judge and that you would be on a mission to share that truth with others.

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— Day Seven —

Read and take notes through Luke 20-21  
Today is an Active Reading Day

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# — Day Eight —

Luke 20:1-19\*

\*verse 19 was originally included in Day Nine

. . . Open with Prayer . . .

*We're in the final week of Jesus' life. Jesus has been in conflict with His enemies who have continued to bring charges against His teaching and His actions. But, since they have been unable to confront him successfully in rebuking His teaching and His deeds, now they question His authority. He has cleared the temple in righteous indignation.*

Review **Luke 20:1-19** and have your Active Reading notes handy as you complete today's lesson.

## Luke 20:1-2

1. What is Jesus doing as He is confronted? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who confronts Him? \_\_\_\_\_
3. They want to know the answer to one or another question. Write them here:  
➤ \_\_\_\_\_  
➤ \_\_\_\_\_

*Yesterday's lesson concluded with the leaders "seeking to destroy" Him. Today, their question is part of that plan. If Jesus speaks on His own authority, He is blaspheming. If He speaks on God's authority, they'll also accuse Him of blasphemy. Both of which are punishable by death. They must have thought they had Him in a lose/lose situation. But, Jesus had answered both of these questions by the example of His life, His miracles, His healings. So, why ask it? Why do you ask a question you already know the answer to? You want to hear it in plain English, right? It's not that the leaders weren't convinced of His power. They had acknowledged it. Recall, in Luke 14? They accused Him of using the power of Satan, but Jesus put that ridiculous notion to rest.*

4. Before we look at Jesus' response, let's review how He has already given them the answer to their question about His authority:

	<u>Who/What Testifies?</u>	<u>What do they/does it say?</u>
<b>Luke 3:21-22</b>		
<b>Luke 4:17-21</b>		
<b>Luke 4:34, 8:28</b>		
<b>Luke 5:20-26</b>		
<b>Luke 7:18-23</b>		
<b>Luke 8:24</b>		

*Who has testified? God and man (even demons) and Scripture have testified to the authority of Jesus Christ. So, the question that these leaders were asking was a question that had already been answered. And the reason they are asking this question is not because Jesus hasn't made a clear testimony to who He is. It is because their hearts are hard. The evidence is overwhelming. And, the above verses are only from Luke, and only scratch the surface! In John 1:12, He claimed authority to give life and salvation. In John 5:27, it says that He was given authority to judge all men. In John 10:18 He said, "I have authority to lay My life down, and I have authority to take it again." So, there was no lack of evidence that Jesus had authority, claimed authority, used authority, was given authority, and operated by Authority!*

## Luke 20:3-6

5. Jesus answers their question with a question. This was a common rabbinic method of teaching. What does Jesus ask?

*Note: saying "the baptism of John" is a blanket statement about the entire ministry of John. It wasn't about a specific baptism. Ruh-Roh. The leaders are now trapped by their own words. Luke records their dilemma:*

6. What are they wrestling with?
- If we say from \_\_\_\_\_ ... \_\_\_\_\_  
What would be the implications of acknowledging John the Baptist was from heaven (God)?
  - If we say from \_\_\_\_\_ ... \_\_\_\_\_  
What would be the implications of acknowledging John the Baptist was from man?
7. \*\*\*Are they wrestling with the truth of who Jesus may or may not be, or are they wrestling with their public image and the social implications of making a decision? Are they actually attempting to discern if, like John the Baptist had said\*, Jesus was the “lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world” or is it something else? What do you think?
- \*John 1:29*
8. What answer do you think they **wanted** to give? That John was from men or from God? Why do you think this?
9. What holds them back? (v. 6) \_\_\_\_\_  
I can sum that consideration up in one word: FEAR.
- Bottom line, their concern was for public opinion, not in truth. Jesus had been consistently exposing this in His ministry. Rather than humble themselves and acknowledge their self-righteousness and pride, rather than letting go of their religion, they clung all the more. Fear of man ruled them. Fear of loss. Fear of all the wrong things.*
10. Read **Proverbs 29:25**. What happens when we fear man? \_\_\_\_\_  
And isn't this exactly where they are? In a trap of their own making.
11. Read **Luke 12:4**. What has Jesus taught about this?
12. How do they answer? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What does Jesus say? \_\_\_\_\_ End of story.
14. Why do you think Jesus won't tell them explicitly, “My authority is from God. He gave Me this authority.”?

### Read Luke 20:9-19

This parable is as strongly rooted in history as it is prophetic. God, the Israelites, prophets, and Jesus are all represented.

15. Who planted and owns the vineyard? \_\_\_\_\_ Who does this represent? \_\_\_\_\_
16. Who is keeping the vineyard while he's away? \_\_\_\_\_ Who does this represent? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Who does the vineyard owner send first? \_\_\_\_\_ Who does this represent? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Who does the vineyard owner send last? \_\_\_\_\_ Who does this represent? \_\_\_\_\_
19. Write the vineyard owners' words from **Luke 20:13** –  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Does this remind you of any other verse? Read **Luke 3:22** and write it here:*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Underline the familiar words in each verse.
20. Do the tenants acknowledge who the vineyard owner finally send? (v. 14) \_\_\_\_\_
21. Why do they want to kill him? \_\_\_\_\_



22. Jesus asks the people what they think the owner of the vineyard should do to the wicked tenants and then gives them the answer which was: (v. 15)

23. How do they respond to that answer? (v. 16) \_\_\_\_\_ (Greek is "May it never be!")

24. Jesus redirects them to the prophecy in **Psalm 118:22**. Who is the "cornerstone" \_\_\_\_\_ and who are the builders? \_\_\_\_\_

25. Jesus' disciple Peter (whose name, interestingly, means stone) wrote about this in **1 Peter 2:4-8**. How does Peter describe Jesus in verse 4?

He quotes from Isaiah's prophecy in verse 6. What will happen to "whoever believe in Him...?"

Then, Peter explains why people stumble on Jesus/the Cornerstone in verse 8:

26. Do the scribes and chief priests understand what Jesus was implying in this parable? \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 19)

27. What holds them back from doing what they really want to do in response to it? \_\_\_\_\_

28. \*\*\*Again, their fear of \_\_\_\_\_ is their trap. How would things have been different if they obeyed the words of God that they had taught to their people. Read **Deuteronomy 10:12-13**. What does God say to do?

Jesus own words testified to this. What did he say in **Luke 12:4-5**?

### ...In Closing...

I hope you don't think I am saying that if only the Pharisees hadn't feared man, that they'd have been able to carry out their evil intentions toward Jesus at the end of this teaching! They should have been fearing God all along! How can you tell if someone is fearing man or fearing God? It's easy. So easy! They obey who they fear. The person whose approval we desire most or disapproval we are most fearful of receiving is the person we will obey. Basically, who/what we fear is our god. That's why the Bible so often commands us to "fear the Lord." The religious leaders that Jesus was speaking to had a fear issue. They feared the wrong thing. **Who** do you fear today? **What** do you fear? If it's not God first above all, that, my friend, might just be the answer to any and all issues you are stumbling over today. Fear God. Do you know where that begins? It begins with a right understanding of who God is and what He's all about and from there you gain a right understanding of who you are and what you are all about. The psalmist said it perfectly:

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!*

<sup>2</sup> *Serve the Lord with gladness!*

*Come into his presence with singing!*

<sup>3</sup> *Know that the Lord, He is God!*

*It is He who made us, and we are His;*

*we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.*

<sup>4</sup> *Enter His gates with thanksgiving,*

*and His courts with praise!*

*Give thanks to Him; bless His name!*

<sup>5</sup> *For the Lord is good;*

*His steadfast love endures forever,*

*and His faithfulness to all generations.*

~Psalm 100

What does verse three say? It is He who made us! We are His people! Underline those words and make note of this chapter in your Bible as well. You are His! Acknowledge Jesus boldly today. Do you need to be baptized? Do you need to speak to an estranged loved one? Do you need to deny yourself so you can seek Him today? Do that. Don't let fear of man be the reason you don't do the will of God!

# — Days Nine <sup>AND</sup> Ten —

Luke 20:20-21:4

... Open with Prayer ...

Today's lesson, especially the last four verses, is one of the most important in our study. Through it I hope you reaffirm the significance of Jesus as Lord. Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus is God. Review **Luke 20:20-44** and have your Active Reading notes handy as you complete today's lesson. This is one long passage, but we'll take two days to go through it.

## Luke 20:20-26 and Mark 12:13-17

1. \*\*\***Luke 20:20** Summarize what's going on in this verse:

What group of people are named in Mark that Luke doesn't include? (Mark 12:13) \_\_\_\_\_

*These were a political party who were loyal to Herod and wanted him to be on the throne in Judea. Since the Pharisees wanted a descendant of David on the throne, they were opposing groups. However, they had a common goal: silencing Jesus. So, they joined with the Pharisees if they thought it could bring Jesus down. Read Mark 3:6 at the start of Jesus' ministry, "**The Pharisees went out and immediately began to take counsel with the Herodians against Jesus, as to how they might destroy Him.**" The Herodians and the Pharisees have been in collusion ever since the beginning. The governor at the time was Pilate, and he was in Jerusalem because the city was so crowded from the Passover, that he had to be in town to keep the peace.*

2. **Luke 20:21** They make three statements to Jesus about what He does. Write them here. Which ones were correct? Mark each as either True (T) or False (F.)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ T / F  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ T / F  
3) \_\_\_\_\_ T / F

3. If they had this all correct (and they did!), then why do they want to "catch Him in something He said?"

4. **Luke 20:22** What is their question? \_\_\_\_\_  
What's the objective of this question? Hint: Luke 20:20

5. What do you think they hoped He would say?

*The Jews did not have the right to execute anyone. So, in order to get rid of Jesus, they had to get it done through Rome. But how? Surely, if Jesus' defied Rome, they'd be on their way. If He spoke out against giving tribute to Caesar then they'd have Him finally...*

6. **Luke 20:23** What is Jesus aware of? \_\_\_\_\_

This isn't the first time Jesus "perceives" what is going on behind the words. Throughout His ministry, Jesus has understood the heart and mind of man.

7. \*\*\***1 Corinthians 3:18-20** What do we learn here about God?

8. **Luke 20:24-25**

Whose image was on the coin? \_\_\_\_\_

Where is God's image? (Gen. 1:26) \_\_\_\_\_

9. If you're going to render back to God what He deserves, what are you going to render?

10. What is Jesus saying in regard to civil authority?

...in regard to God's authority?

11. As followers of Christ then, where is our ultimate allegiance?

12. \*\*\*Read **Romans 13:1-8** and write down key points from Paul's message that connect to what Jesus is saying:

13. **Luke 20:26** How does Jesus' answer leave them feeling?

#### **Review Luke 20:27-40**

**Background:** *The Jews believed in the resurrection, but the Sadducees - a Jewish sect of priests who claimed to have descended from David's priest, Zadok - did not. Caiaphas, the high priest, was a Sadducee. Josephus records that Jesus' brother, James, was killed by a Sadducean high priest. The Sadducees prided themselves on their strict interpretation of the Law, the first five books of the Old Testament. They were experts in it.*

14. **Read Acts 23:8.** What details does Luke give about the Sadducees?

15. **Luke 20:27-33** They present Jesus with an outlandish scenario based on a law (*referred to as the "law of levirate marriage" from the Latin word levir, "a husband's brother"*) given to the Jews while they were en route to the Promised land. **Read Deuteronomy 25:5** for the law. What are they basically asking Jesus?

*Keep in mind that they do not believe in the resurrection at all. Don't think this is unusual. You won't need to go far to find people, even "Christians" - even pastors and teachers of Christian faith - who deny the resurrection. This is an important conversation!*

16. **Luke 20:34** What are the "sons of this age" (people who live at this time) able to do?

17. **Luke 20:35** What does Jesus say about marriage after the resurrection?

*To respond to the Sadducees, Jesus uses Scripture only from the Scripture that they respected: The Torah.*

18. **Luke 20:35-37a** These verses give us key truths about the doctrine of the resurrection. This is what Jesus taught. From these verses write 6 truths about what it's like for the sons of God after death:

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1) _____ | 4) _____ |
| 2) _____ | 5) _____ |
| 3) _____ | 6) _____ |

19. **\*\*\*Luke 20:37b** Jesus takes God's word here from **Exodus 3:15** and explains it in this context. The Sadducees, who considered themselves the most learned and observant of all, should have understood its meaning. What does **Exodus 3:15** say about life after death, but Jesus does the expository preaching for them. Use **Luke 20:38** to help you:

20. **Daniel 12:2** also speaks of the resurrection. What could the Sadducees have learned from this passage?

21. Since God is "not God of the dead, but of the living," what does this say about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?

22. **Read Matthew 22:29.** What two reasons does Jesus give for why the Sadducees are wrong?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
2) \_\_\_\_\_

23. **\*\*\*How about you?** Do you know the Bible? Do you know the power of God? How would you say that you show, by how you live, how you respond to issues and questions that you know the Bible and the power of God?

*How would you respond biblically if someone told you that they believed in the God Jesus and even the Bible and they also believed that when they die they'll live on a planet having heavenly sex and producing spirit babies?*

*How would you respond biblically if someone told you that they believed in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and they also believed that when they die they will have 72 virgins to live with in the life to come?*

24. **Luke 20:39** After hearing Jesus' response, what do those who are listening acknowledge?

25. **Luke 20: 40** Finally, they no longer dared to do what? \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 20:41-44 read also Matthew 22:41-46**

They might be done with questions, but Jesus has one for them. It's a question we should be able to answer today as well. We'll be returning to this question in Lesson 8 when we read through Luke chapter 24.

26. **Matthew 22:42** and **Luke 20:41** What question does Jesus pose to them? (Matthew’s account is helpful for the context.)

*This verse is from **Psalm 110:1**. Jews considered This Psalm to be messianic. It spoke of their coming messiah. Jewish people regarded ancestors as greater than their descendants. Based on this thinking, how could David's descendant, Jesus, the Messiah, be greater than David? How could David refer to his son as Lord? This question is one that Jesus would answer. He would soon show that He is the object of all the Scriptures of the Old Testament. “For the New Testament writers, Psalm 110:1 was foundational in understanding who Jesus is and fully and properly exalting him. He is not only risen but reigning, not only alive but sovereign, not only central but supreme. All things—in the world, politics, society, history, culture, their personal lives—were to be viewed from the vantage point of the ascended Christ, “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him” (1 Peter 3:22). That was the horizon that shaped and determined everything else. Instead of relegating him to the past or the future, it situated him in the present and the center.” (Steven Seamands, [www.seedbed.com](http://www.seedbed.com))*

27. Identifying as a son of David is one thing. You’re saying you are David’s descendant. Jesus’ earthly father was a son of David. But saying you’re the Son of David is an entirely different thing. Who has called Jesus the “Son of David?”

Matthew 12:23 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 21:15 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 18:38-39 \_\_\_\_\_

28. So, in **Psalm 110:1**, David makes an astounding statement. A statement that the Jews believed referred to their coming Messiah. And Jesus affirms David’s statement, that it wasn’t just some words he spoke. What does Jesus say about the origin of David’s psalm?

➤ Matthew 22:43 - \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Mark 12:36 - \_\_\_\_\_

Then Jesus poses the question, essentially the same one He had asked His disciples back in Luke 9:20, but in a different way. This time, He gets no affirming answer, and He offers no affirming response. When Peter rightly had said, “You are the Christ of God” Jesus affirmed Him clearly (Matthew 16:16-17.) No religious leaders have an answer for Jesus question here. So, He leaves them in their silence, thinking. And He also leaves the people with a warning...

**Luke 20:24-27, Mark 12:38-40 and Matthew 23:1-36** is the full account)

29. **Luke 20:24-27** Jesus calls out the scribes for what actions? At least six:

30. **Matthew 23:2-3** is the origin of a saying you have probably heard before and may not have realized it came from Jesus! What saying is it?

*(Answer: page 244)*

31. In **Luke 29:27** Jesus says, “They will receive the greater condemnation.” What is Jesus saying here? Consider also, **Luke 12:36** and **James 3:1**.

**Luke 21:1-4 and Mark 12:41-44**

Some people believe that money should never be mentioned in the Church. Yet, Jesus talked about money frequently, in fact 17 of 36 parables Jesus taught had to do with money and our treasure. Jesus talked about money twice as much as heaven & hell combined!! Why? Because there is no area in our life that is not affected by money in some way, it is therefore a major issue!

32. Using your ESV Bible, write the first five words of verse one:

Write the first six words of verse two:

*Underline "and saw" (v. 1) and "and He saw" (v. 2) in your Bible.*

33. "She...put in all." What does this tell you about her heart?

*Underline these words in your Bible.*

Like Jesus who looked up and saw, God sees you. He knows your needs, your wants. He knows what you value and what you treasure. Use the space here to illustrate your desire to give to God from your abundance or from your poverty. I'd love to hear from you! Feel free to send me a text of your drawing and any thoughts you had from today's lesson.

*...In Closing...*

You may well have acknowledged that Jesus is the Christ. You may have called upon His name and surrendered your life to Him. I pray this is true. However, you live surrounded by people who have not. They are in two groups. The first group are those who completely deny Jesus in some way. They deny His existence (atheists, agnostics\*, etc.) or deny His deity (Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Jews, Muslims, etc.) The other group are those who claim His name but don't deny themselves and in so doing, they actually deny Him. So, really there are only two camps: Deniers of Christ or Deniers of Self. Jesus made His identity clear. He also made His invitation clear. For you who have said, "Yes! I believe you are the Lord and Messiah," I pray that you would "let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness." (Col. 2:7.) If this is not you, I pray that you would consider again whose Son Jesus really is. He is the eternal Son of God, the only Savior, who came first as an offering for sin and will come again to restore the earth and to judge those who deny Him. I pray that your heart will not turn away, but that you would embrace the Savior, believe, repent, and receive the gift of eternal life.

*\*Yes, I know that agnostics do not technically deny God's existence. They don't know for certain, that's what agnosticism means, "without knowledge." That might be well and good for a philosophy class or a discussion among intellectuals, but you either deny Him or you receive Him. So, an agnostic may as well be an atheist.*

# — Day Eleven —

Luke 21:5-24

... Open with Prayer ...

Review Luke 21:5-24 and have your Active Reading notes on hand as you complete today's study.

Reminder, we are using the **ESV translation** of the Bible for continuity sake in our study. You can find the ESV for free on [www.BibleGateway.com](http://www.BibleGateway.com) or similar websites. Also, the "Blue Letter Bible" app is a great tool to have on your smartphone or tablet.

Have you ever caught yourself asking, "How would Mom have done this?" or "How would grandma have made this?" I have. When I'm cooking I often think of my mom or my grandma or my aunt and wonder how they would have made that soup or chili or meatloaf. I wish I had their mind! What a blessing that my aunt wrote out Grandma's best recipes and gave me that personalized cookbook for my wedding gift. It's truly a cherished possession. My grandmother's photo is on the wall in my kitchen overlooking my counter, and that beautiful cookbook sits nearby on the shelf so I can have her mind right there when I need it!

These passages are a reminder to me of how differently Jesus sees things. Also, they remind me that in order for me to understand and think biblically, I need to have the mind of Christ. I have His word and I pray for wisdom as I read it that I'd be better able to understand life with the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:14-16.)

**Eschatology** (*es-ka-tol-o-gee*) is a word you may or may not be familiar with, but it's helpful to know the word as we begin to study some eschatological passages from Luke. Eschatology is from the Greek "eskatos" meaning "last" and "logos" meaning "study of." So, eschatology is the study of the last things or end times.

**Read Luke 21:5-9** also **Matthew 24:1-3** and **Mark 13:1-4** will help to provide more details and context.

1. Where are Jesus and His disciples for this conversation? (Read Mark 13:1)

2. What does Jesus say will happen to "these things that you see?"

3. What two questions do the disciples ask?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

4. What answer does He give them? (v. 8-9)

5. \*\*\*Note in verse 9 that Jesus says, "the end will not be at once." The Greek is the word "εὐθέως" (yoo-the-os) meaning "immediately." The end will not happen immediately. What will happen before the end?

In 70ad the Temple is destroyed as Jesus prophesied. For a fascinating historical account, you can read Josephus' history here: <http://www.josephus.org/causeofDestruct.htm>. The Temple, also called "Herod's Temple" is considered to be one of the greatest structures of ancient times. Josephus wrote:

*Viewed from without, the Sanctuary had everything that could amaze either mind or eyes. Overlaid all round with stout plates of gold, the first rays of the sun it reflected so fierce a blaze of fire that those who endeavored to look at it were forced to turn away as if they had looked straight at the sun. To strangers as they approached it seemed in the distance like a mountain covered with snow; for any part not covered with gold was dazzling white... (The Jewish War, p. 304)*

It was a tragic loss on many counts. Josephus records that 6,000 Jews were burned alive in the destruction. Also, all of the genealogies of the Jews were destroyed in the loss of the Temple. For more on Herod's Temple visit: <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/14304-temple-of-herod>

**Luke 21:10-19**

6. Jesus continues His eschatological teaching and warns his disciples of what? (verses 10-11)

N\_\_\_\_\_ will rise against \_\_\_\_\_

K\_\_\_\_\_ against \_\_\_\_\_

There will be great e\_\_\_\_\_ (the Greek work is "σεισμοι" (seis-moi) where we get "seismic")

And in various places, f\_\_\_\_\_ and p\_\_\_\_\_

And there will be t\_\_\_\_\_ (the Greek work is "φόβητρά" (pho-bey-tra) where we get "phobias" meaning things that cause great fear or terror)

And g\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_ from heaven

**But wait, that's not all!...**

7. \*\*\*What will happen before all this? (v. 12 & v. 16)

8. \*\*\*What does Jesus want them to be ready to do? (v. 13) \_\_\_\_\_

9. \*\*\*With that Jesus also gives them an admonition not to do what? (v. 14) and the reason why (v. 15)

10. \*\*\*All in all, Jesus warns His disciples of what? (v. 17)

➤ \*\*\*What has Jesus said already about this?

**Luke 9:23-27**

**Luke 6:22-23**

11. Jesus encourages them that in spite of all this terror and persecution - even death - what is their reward? (v. 18-19)

*"Not a hair of your head..." is a metaphor for the degree of perfect safety that those who endure will receive in heaven.*

**Luke 21:20-24**

12. Jesus gives this terrifying warning now to all living in Jerusalem. Its desolation has come near when they see what? (v. 20) \_\_\_\_\_

13. What are they to do? (v. 21) (three directives)



14. Jesus gives two explanations about why these days are coming. (v. 22) They are:

Days of \_\_\_\_\_

To fulfill \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew opens his gospel with the reminder that Jesus was born to do the same.

**Read Matthew 1:22**

Jesus' birth and the events surrounding it took place to:

15. These terrible events will happen in and to Jerusalem – the Jews – until when? (v. 24)

Paul mentions this time as well. **Read Romans 11:25**. What does he say there about his time?

So, what does this mean for us?

**Read 2 Peter 3:10-17** This would be a great passage to commit to memory!

16. \*\*\*What kind of people should you be now that you know this is going to happen?

...In Closing...

Thank God for this view to our future, this prophecy that has been and will be fulfilled! God is faithful. What He has said He would accomplish, He has. Over 300 prophecies were fulfilled in the birth of Christ and 100 more at his death and resurrection. God's integrity is seen in the accuracy of every prophecy fulfilled. We can trust Him. His Word has always been proven to be true and stood the test of all the doubters and critics. I pray that you will truly know the truth and power of God's word and that you will be encouraged and emboldened to live confidently for Christ.

— Day Twelve —

Luke 21:25-38

... Open with Prayer ...

*In 1970, Hal Lindsey released his now infamous book, "The Late Great Planet Earth." The influence of that book colored all of my formative years growing up in the church. Eschatology was the burning topic through churches, conferences, colleges and even schoolyards. I was four when it came out, and by the time I could read it on my own it was still extremely popular. I remember in junior high going to a youth group night where we watched the movie, "Thief in the Night." It was the story of a lady who was left behind when her friends and family who had been warning her, were all raptured. Now, she was left in the end times to deal with the tribulation, getting the mark of the beast, and surviving it all. I remember inviting a friend to that movie night and she was so scared she accepted Jesus as her Savior that night and the next day her mom called and thanked me!*

When I went to college I was still confused about eschatology. When was Jesus returning? Was the rapture really going to happen? Was I a "pre" millennialist? Or "post"? Or "a"? I heard a sermon sometime around then where the pastor said in all honesty, "I'm a panmillennialist. I think it's all going to pan out in the end." I agree! I believe that Jesus is coming again. I don't know when, but I want to be ready.

**Review Luke 21:25-28**

Jesus has warned about the destruction of the Temple in the previous verses, and now He is continuing His discourse about the end times, what to expect, and how to respond.

1. **Luke 21:25-26** List the signs Jesus warns are to come:  
Signs in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
And on the earth \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ because of the  
Roaring of the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_  
People \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
Of what is coming on the world
2. How will the people be responding to all these signs? (v. 26) Why?
3. After all these signs, what will they see? (v. 27)
4. What is the posture and the attitude of those who know they are redeemed? (v. 28)
5. What is the *opposite* posture of someone who is straightened up and what attitude might they have?
6. What is the *opposite* posture of someone who had their head raised and what attitude might they have?
7. Go back to verse 28 and underline and highlight and circle...do whatever you need to do make these words stand out..."straighten up and raise your heads because your redemption is drawing near." If you are a believer, how are you to respond when you see our redemption coming?

**Note the striking difference between the way believers and non-believers see the same event?**

8. **\*\*\*Read Daniel 7:13-14.** Who is the Son of Man? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who does He appear before? The A\_\_\_\_\_ of D\_\_\_\_\_  
What is He given? \_\_\_\_\_  
What is Jesus claiming by saying the HE IS the Son of Man?  
  
What should we who trust in Him do in response?

**Review Luke 21:29-33**

9. Recall from **Luke 12:54-56**, what did Jesus admonish them about?  
  
Underline "present time."

10. Now, using the fig tree as a visual aid, He warns them about what? (v. 29-31)

Underline "the kingdom of God"

11. **Read Luke 21:32.** Underline "this generation." Connect it to "these things taking place" from **Luke 21:31.** What is He saying about the generation who sees "these things taking place?"

12. **Write Luke 21:33** here:

Oh, look! A perfectly placed empty box! Don't you think you should draw a picture that represents this awesome verse? I do! Text me? Yes! 562.755.4964



*Can you picture this? This is a powerful statement!*

13. What will outlast heaven and earth? \_\_\_\_\_ How long is that? FOREVER!

**Wait! Haven't you read words like this before? If not, then those hearing Jesus speak would have heard the words before. This was no simple statement for Jesus to make. This was...well, read on and you tell me.**

14. **\*\*\*Read Isaiah 40:8.** What will stand longer than the grass and flowers? \_\_\_\_\_ How long? FOREVER!

15. **\*\*\*Read John 1:1-2** What does this tell us about the Word (Jesus)?

16. **\*\*\*Read Genesis 1:1** Who created the heavens and the earth? \_\_\_\_\_

17. **\*\*\*Skim Genesis 1:1-26.** Underline every time you read "God said..." How did God bring creation into existence? By His \_\_\_\_\_. That's mighty powerful, isn't it?!

18. **\*\*\*Read Psalm 102:25-28.** What does this say about the earth and the heavens – and what does it say about God's people?

19. **\*\*\*Read Luke 16:17.** What does Jesus say about the Law and Prophets in terms of their permanence?

**Think:** *Jesus said that the heaven and earth could pass away easier than the Law and Prophets. Now He is saying that His word will outlast heaven and earth. Jesus is making a bold statement about the authority and permanence of His word! He is elevating His own word to the level of the Law and Prophets.*

Have you heard the line, "Check yo-self before you wreck yo-self?"\* Ice Cube made it famous in a song back in 1993. If Jesus were to have rapped this next passage, I think He'd have opened with this line! Well, maybe not, but it sure fits! Read on!

**Review Luke 21:34-38**

20. **Luke 21:34-35** What command does Jesus give in the opening of this verse?

21. Jesus lists behavior that is generally accepted as immoral ( \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ) along with a general mindset ( \_\_\_\_\_ of this \_\_\_\_\_ ) How do you think that they are both equally problematic?

22. What is the scope of “that day” and what it will bring? (Who will it impact?) (v. 35)
23. What are we to do at all times? (v. 36) \_\_\_\_\_ Of course, this is not a command to literally be awake. What does Jesus mean?
24. Peter, one of the disciples Jesus was speaking to, echoed these words when he wrote to those who were already experiencing these trials. **Read 1 Peter 5:7-8** and compare what he says there to what Jesus warns of here in **Luke 21:34-36**. Note any similarities:
25. Paul, who had not yet been converted, writes also in the same theme. **Read Ephesians 6:10-11, 18** and note any similarities:
26. **Read Luke 21:37-38** Locate the Temple and Mt. Olivet on your map. Each day, Jesus is waking and walking back in to Jerusalem from Mt. Olivet. We are now at Wednesday of Passion week. Summarize what has been packed into these few short days of what we refer to as “Passion Week” – the final days of Jesus life before His resurrection. (Note that there is no absolute confirmation of the exact chronology of events. I’ve outlined a basic flow that will help you align the events.)
- Sunday – (Luke 19:28ff)
- Monday – (Luke 19:45ff)
- Tuesday – (Luke 20)
- Wednesday – (Luke 21)

### ...In Closing...

This study was born out my heart’s desire to teach women the power of the Word of God and the hope that this Word brings. We live in a fear-filled, anxiety-ridden world. You could wake up today and not get past your front door and feel overwhelmed by the cares of this world. They come right on in through our phones! Jesus stands before us today and says, “Hope! There is hope! In this world you will have tribulation, trouble, cares, burdens...but I have overcome the world! This is the reason I came! I came to bring you that hope. Be of good cheer! I have overcome the world!” As I met with women and heard their hearts, two common issues kept coming up. One was the fear and anxiety so many women deal with. The other was a lack of knowledge of the Word of God. Many women have read devotionals, inspirational books, self-help books. Many had gone to church all their lives and been to “Bible studies” and heard sermons or been to women’s retreats and conferences. But one key and consistent thing was lacking: reading and studying the Word of God on their own. Trusting the Holy Spirit to teach them. No sermon will last, all devotionals will fade away, Bible studies will go, but God’s word? – That’s eternal! It’s alive and powerful and able to slice to the heart revealing what is inside. It can teach us, guide us, direct us, reveal to us, and so much more. It helps us see our past, His plan, and our future and His plans there as well! But women weren’t in the Word! I pray as you close your time today that you have come to understand the power available to you in this Word. I pray that you will always treasure it above anything else. That you will meditate on it, memorize it, and dig deeper on your own into the Word. If you want hope and healing and relief from the cares of this world, there is one place and one place alone where that can be found – the Word! I’d love to hear from you today. How are you growing in the Word? How are you still challenged? How can I help? Let’s come together and help one another to be “steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord, our labor is not in vain.” (1 Cor. 15:58)

You are loved  
**AND**  
prayed for.