

Luke - Guide (May 20)

Luke Part 12 / "...if you will..."

Go over the rules of Group Discussion:

- Use 'I' statements. These statements break denial structures.
- No rescuing people as they are speaking. Do not finish someone's sentence if they start struggling to find words. Let them fully process their thought; it might be the first time they are wrestling with something
- No side chatter.
- Pray. Invite God to further His kingdom in your group. Ask for blind spots to be revealed in your members' lives.

Reading:

12 While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean." 13 And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him. 14 And he charged him to tell no one, but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them." 15 But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. 16 But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

- Luke 5:12-16

Getting Started

Read the above verses

1. Do you believe supernatural things happen?
2. Have you ever experienced something supernatural?
3. Do you believe miracles happen?
4. Have you ever experienced a miracle?

Going Deeper

As we continue through Luke, we want people to be able to voice their thoughts and questions; however, we do not necessarily want to fill those with answers. As we walk through the book of Luke, we will be confronted with what we think

we already know about Jesus versus what the bible says about Jesus. We will be confronted with whether we are worshiping the Jesus of the bible, or a Jesus we have created in our head. Create an environment where people can just shout out a thought they have.

1. Have you ever prayed from the bottom of your heart for God to heal you, or someone you know, and He did?
2. Have you ever prayed from the bottom of your heart for God to heal you, or someone you know, and He did not?
3. Luke 5:16: "But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray." Jesus did not heal every person He encountered. Have you ever thought about that?
4. Is He still good, even if He chooses not to heal/rescue/intervene in that moment?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-9
 - a. The Apostle Paul, writer of many of the new testament books, pled with God three times to take away his thorn in the flesh; however, God did not.
 - i. What do you learn about God from that?
 - ii. What do you learn about Paul from that?
 - iii. What do you learn about you from that?
 - b. V. 10: "For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."
 - i. Do you accept that weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities may be what is best for you?
 - ii. Do you accept that God knows what is best for you, more than you?
6. Read James 5:13-15. Are we to ask for healing?
7. Daniel talked about how we must earnestly pray to God for a supernatural healing. But, we must accept God's response with an open hand. We must defer to God's infinite wisdom.
 - a. Is there someone you need to ask for supernatural healing?
 - b. Is there something you are accepting with an open hand right now?

Application

1. Read Romans 8:26-29
2. The goal is for us to look more and more like Christ; that might call for suffering and hardship.
3. Are you okay with that?
4. Looking back at your life, when have you matured the most - during good times, or hard times?
 - a. When have you matured the most in your life?
5. What in your life are you assuming is not for your good?
6. What is the greatest source of pain in your life right now?
7. What lies about your current situation are you believing?
8. What has God said is true that can apply to your situation?
9. What do you need this group to gather around you and pray over right now in your life?

Transparency & Vulnerability:

If you haven't done so already, split up the men and women in your group.

- Ask if there is anything that needs to be dragged out and confessed before the light of God. Darkness cannot live in the light. Read James 5:16.
- Pray for each other; lay hands on and pray when needed.