



LUKE CHAPTER 17 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- When you recognize that something is going to be a lot of work and take a ton of time on your part, which of the following best characterizes your response?
 - Take some time to consider the best ways to approach the work thinking about various solutions.
 - Accept the work ahead as a challenge and jump feet first into the work to get it done.
 - Ask people around you to help.
 - Put it off for another day and/or time.
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Luke 17:1-38)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Luke 17:1-10

- What do you think the disciples' response in verse 5 indicated about what they understood what Jesus was asking them to do?
 - The disciples understood that what Jesus was asking them to do regarding forgiveness and being an active part of restoring and healing relationships was no small work. In fact, it was not a work that could primarily be done by them. They understood that their only way to do what Jesus was asking was for Him to grow their faith.
 - What are areas of your faith walk and journey that you try to do on your own but that are really only possible through the work of the Lord and the Holy Spirit?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

- Notice that while the disciples are asking for an increase of faith, Jesus' response is that they just need to have even a little faith like a mustard seed, which was extremely small. Why do you think that Jesus responds in this way.
 - Jesus wants His disciples to understand that it is He who is going to fill in the gaps where the disciples are lacking. He wants them to understand that faith isn't about doing the dramatic but about bringing our whole selves to God in faith that He can and will maximize whatever we bring to the table.
 - Why do you think as human beings we are frequently focused on having bigger faith when it seems like Jesus is focused on filling in the gaps where we are lacking?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

- In verses 7-10, when Jesus is asking questions, these questions are posed to point to the reality that our "work" and "service" as followers of Jesus isn't where the power to change and transform actually reside. The power to change and transform actually reside with Jesus Christ and we get to be partners with Him and instruments through which this happens.
 - How do you daily, intentionally, and purposefully guard against allowing your pride and ego to drive your actions?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Luke 17:11-19

- Where do you find yourself in this story about the cleansing of the ten lepers? Is it in the place of the one leper who expressed his gratitude or is it in the places of the nine who did not return to express their gratitude?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- What are some things that make it difficult for you personally to live daily in gratitude?

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Luke 17:20-38

- Jesus communicated to the Pharisees that in their pursuit of God's kingdom, they had actually missed it. How is this even possible?
 - The Pharisees pursuit of God's kingdom had everything to do with attempting to get God's kingdom to align with their own thoughts and insights regarding what they desired the kingdom to be about and look like. Their pursuit didn't have to do with taking Jesus as He was because it didn't fit with who they wanted Him to be.
 - In what ways might you have "boxed Jesus into" your own thoughts and desires about Him?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.

- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time.

Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week. (Luke chapter 18)



LUKE CHAPTER 17 (STUDENT)

Luke 17:1-10

- What do you think the disciples' response in verse 5 indicated about what they understood what Jesus was asking them to do?
 - What are areas of your faith walk and journey that you try to do on your own but that are really only possible through the work of the Lord and the Holy Spirit?
- Notice that while the disciples are asking for an increase of faith, Jesus' response is that they just need to have even a little faith like a mustard seed, which was extremely small. Why do you think that Jesus responds in this way.
 - Why do you think as human beings we are frequently focused on having bigger faith when it seems like Jesus is focused on filling in the gaps where we are lacking?
- In verses 7-10, when Jesus is asking questions, these questions are posed to point to the reality that our "work" and "service" as followers of Jesus isn't where the power to change and transform actually reside. The power to change and transform actually reside with Jesus Christ and we get to be partners with Him and instruments through which this happens.
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