



DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Matt. 8:5-13
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Matt. 11:1-19
- Day 3: Do Section C. Read Lk. 7:11-19;36-50

Lesson 1

Healing a Centurion's Servant; Questions from John the Baptist; Raising a Widow's Son; A Sinful Woman Forgiven
Matt. 8:5-13; 11:1-19; Lk. 7:1-50

A. Healing a Centurion's Servant. Read Matthew 8:5-13

1. What was wrong with the centurion's servant? What did Jesus offer to do?
2. How did the centurion respond?
3. What authority did the centurion have? Why would he say he was under authority? Why did this understanding cause him to make the request he did of Jesus?
4. How did Jesus respond? Why do you think He was so impressed?
5. What did Jesus mean concerning those who would sit in His kingdom and those who would be cast out?

B. Questions from John the Baptist. Read Matthew 11:1-19

1. After John was imprisoned, he sent disciples to Jesus. What question did they ask?
2. Considering that John had previously identified Jesus as the Lamb of God (Jn.1:29), why do you think he would ask this question? Did he do it for the benefit of these disciples? Had he lost faith in Jesus? Or did he, like others, misunderstand the true nature of the Messiah's reign?
3. What answer did Jesus give him? Was this a real answer?
4. How did Jesus commend John? How could someone least in the kingdom be greater than John? What does that reveal about the greatness of the kingdom?

C. Raising a Widow's Son; A Sinful Woman Forgiven. Read Lk. 7:11-17; 36-50

1. Where did Jesus find the widow and her son? What did He do for him?
2. What was the reaction of the people?
3. Where was Jesus when He was approached by the sinful woman? What did she do for Him?
4. How did the Pharisees feel about this?
5. What parable did Jesus tell? What was His point?
6. What application did He make to Simon?
7. How did the other Pharisees respond when they heard it?



Thought Questions

1. The centurion described himself as being under authority and having authority.
 - How did this enable him to understand the authority of Jesus?
 - Do we as human beings possess any authority? Are we under authority? Why should this make us better subjects of the kingdom?
2. Is it really easier for us to forgive when we have been forgiven? If so, why is it true? Can you think of some things of which you have been forgiven that should make you more understanding and considerate of others?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Matt. 12:22-50
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 2

**Accusations Against Jesus;
Parable of the Sower**

Matt. 12:22-13:9, 18-23; Mk. 3:20-4:9,
13-20; Lk. 8:1-8, 11-15; 11:14-36

A. Accusations Against Jesus. Read Matthew 12:22-13:9

1. What was wrong with the demon-possessed man? What did Jesus do for him?

2. How did the multitudes respond? How did the Pharisees respond? What did they mean by this? Why did they respond this way?

3. Jesus listed several reasons why their charges could not be true. List and explain each of them.
 - vv.25,26
 - vs.27 (Could their sons really cast them out?)
 - vs.28

4. What lesson about fruit does Jesus teach? (vv.33-37) What do the things we speak with our mouth represent? How important are the words we speak?

5. What did the Pharisees ask to see of Jesus? Had He done any of these before?

6. Why do you think He described them as evil and adulterous because they asked for a sign? What sign did He promise them?

7. What did He mean by the men of Nineveh and the queen of the South (who is she?) rising up in judgment?

B. The Parable of the Sower. Read Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

1. What different kinds of soil are represented in this parable? What happened to the seed that was sown on each one?
2. What did Jesus mean when He said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"
3. What is the seed? What are the soils? What did each one of them represent?



Thought Questions

1. Jesus said that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks and that we will give account for the words we speak.
 - How do our words reveal to others what we are like on the inside? If we say unkind things about someone else, what does that reveal about us? If we use bad language, what does that indicate? If we speak things that are helpful and wholesome, what does that mean?
 - What precautions should we take about the things that we say? What are some guidelines we can use?
2. Does the parable of the sower represent everyone? Are we one kind of soil or the other? Can we be like more than one kind of soil? If we are good soil, does that mean we are always good soil? What determines the kind of soil we are? How often must we evaluate what kind of soil we are?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Matt. 13:10-17,24-52
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Lk. 8:22-25
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions

Lesson 3

**Other Parables; Purpose of
Parables; Tempest Stilled**

Matt. 13:10-17,24-52; Mk. 4:10-12,21-41;
Lk. 8:9-10,16-25

A. Other Parables. Read Matthew 13:10-17,24-52

1. Jesus said the mysteries of His kingdom had been given to some and not to others. What is it in vs.12 that we either have or do not have? (Cp.vs.9)

2. What is a parable? What was the real reason Jesus began to speak in parables?
 - When Jesus first began His teaching ministry, were people receptive?

 - Did they continue to be receptive as time passed? Why not? (Think of recent examples with the Pharisees)

 - How did the parables He told help determine who was really interested in His teaching and who was not?

3. Describe the other parables Jesus tells. What lesson does each one teach?
 - vv.24-30, 36-43 (What also exists alongside the kingdom of Christ?)

 - vv.31,32 (Is the kingdom outwardly impressive?)

 - vs.33 (How does the kingdom influence others?)

 - vs.44 (Does anyone stumble onto the truth?)

 - vv.45-46 (Do those who seek truth find it?)

 - vv.47-50 (Will everyone who acknowledges the kingdom be accepted?)

B. Tempest Stilled. Read Luke 8:22-25

1. Where was Jesus going with His disciples?
2. What happened as they were crossing over? How serious was it?
3. What was Jesus doing? Why?
4. What did Jesus do when they woke Him? What resulted?
5. What did He indicate they lacked? What was their response? Why would they feel this way?



Thought Questions

1. Someone has said "If you don't use it, you lose it." Is this true? Give some everyday examples of this principle. Is it true spiritually? How does it apply to our knowledge of the Bible? Does it apply to our faith as well as our knowledge? Why or why not?
2. Had the disciples seen Jesus do other miracles before He calmed the storm and the sea? Why would they be afraid if they knew Jesus was with them?
 - Do we ever get frightened of things even though we know they are safe? Give a couple of examples. Why is this?
 - Why does Satan use occasions like this to test our faith? Does he tend to test us by challenging our knowledge or our feelings? What can we do to counteract this?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Sections A. Read Mk. 5:1-20.
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Mk. 5:21-43.
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions

Lesson 4
**Demon-Possessed Man;
Woman with Issue of Blood;
Jairus' Daughter**
Matt. 8:28-34, 9:18-26; Mk. 5:1-43; Lk. 8:26-56

A. Demon- Possessed Man. Read Mark 5:1-20

After crossing the Sea of Galilee with His disciples, Jesus lands on the western side of the Sea of Galilee. Notice this area on a map. It is referred to by several different names - the country of the Gadarenes or Gerasenes or Gergasenes (Matthew). This area, although close to Galilee, was different from it. The people who lived on this side, to whom Jesus later ministers, were probably composed of more Gentiles. They would be less familiar with Jewish ways and customs, as this incident demonstrates.

1. Who was the first one to meet Jesus once He left His boat?
2. How had the unclean spirit affected this man? What did he do from day to day?
3. What did he do upon seeing Jesus? What did the demon immediately recognize about Jesus? What did he request?
4. What did the man's name indicate about his possession? What request did the demons make? What happened to the swine once the demons were cast out?
5. What did the people see when they came to Jesus? What was their reaction? Why do you think they felt this way? What did this indicate about the power of Jesus?
6. How did the man who had been demon-possessed react to Jesus' departure? What did Jesus tell him to do? How did the man respond?

B. Healing a Woman; Raising Jairus' Daughter. Read Mark 5:21-43

1. What position did Jairus have? Would this be impressive for him to approach Jesus? What did he request of Jesus?
2. While Jesus made his way to Jairus' house, a woman in the crowd approached Him. She had a condition of internal bleeding. What had she done in the past to try and take care of it? What did she do when she heard about Jesus? What did she think would happen? What did happen?
3. What question did Jesus ask? What did His disciples say? What did the woman say? For what did Jesus commend her?
4. What had happened to Jairus' daughter? How did Jesus respond?
5. How were the people behaving when Jesus arrived at Jairus' house? What did Jesus say? How did they respond? What did Jesus say to the daughter? What happened?
6. How did the people react? What did Jesus tell them to do?



Thought Questions

1. The Gadarenes were afraid of Jesus once He healed the demon-possessed man.
 - Are we fearful of everything we do not understand? Why some things instead of others? What makes the difference?
 - Can you think of some things of which you are fearful? How does our faith in Jesus help us overcome those fears?
2. The woman who touched Jesus seemed like she was almost out of hope. Why did this make her more likely to trust in Jesus? Are people more willing to consider Jesus and His teaching when they have problems they cannot solve? Why is that?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Mk. 6:7-29
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Mk. 6:30-52
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 5
Sending Out Twelve;
John the Baptists's Death; Feeding Five
Thousand; Walking on Water
Matt. 14:1-33; Mk. 6:7-52; Lk. 9:1-17; Jn. 6:1-21

A. Sending Out the Twelve. Read Mark 6:7-13

1. What power did Jesus give to the twelve apostles? (Cp. Matt.10:1)
2. What were they to take? What were they not to take? Upon whom did they rely for provisions?
3. What message did they preach? What works did they do?

B. The Death of John the Baptist. Read Mk.6:14-29

1. Who did Herod think Jesus was?
2. Where had Herod put John the Baptist? Why?
3. How did Herodias feel about John when he was imprisoned? What did she want to do to him?
4. How did Herod feel about John? Why? What did he do for him? What opportunity was John given?
5. What changed Herod's mind? How did Herodias succeed in her desire toward John?
6. How did Herod feel about Herodias' request? Why did he go through with it?

C. Feeding the Five Thousand; Walking on the Water. Read Mark 6:30-52

1. What did Jesus do upon hearing of John the Baptist's death? Cp. Matt.14:13
2. Who followed Jesus? How did He feel about them? Why?
3. How was Jesus able to feed them? Was this a miracle? How do we know?
4. What did the people want to do to Jesus after this miracle? Cp. Jn.6:14,15 Why do you think He refused?
5. Where did Jesus send the disciples? Where did He go?
6. (Matt.14:22-33) What did Jesus do during the evening? What was the first reaction of the disciples? What did Peter request? Why did he falter? How did the disciples feel afterwards?



Thought Questions

1. Why did John the Baptist object to Herodias? Did it take courage for John to say what he did? What did Jesus later teach about this kind of marriage? Matt.19:9 Are there marriages like this today? Can you think of some ways to avoid this kind of marriage from occurring?
2. Herod seemed to like John despite John's preaching against him. He protected John until he made a promise he regretted. How did he put himself in this situation? Is there any parallel today in dancing? What is there about dancing that can cause such reactions? Can a boy and girl stir such emotions by dancing together? Is it wise to do so?
3. What caused Peter to doubt after being able to walk on the water? Think of some things today that cause us to doubt God. Are they usually things that affect our feelings (like Peter's fear) or things that we think through carefully and then cause us to doubt?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Mk. 7:1-23
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Mk. 7:24-37
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 6
**Traditions Attacked;
Syr-Phoenician Woman;
Deaf Mute Healed**
Matt. 15:1-31; Mk. 7:1-37

A. Traditions Attacked. Read Mark 7:1-23

1. Why did the Pharisees object to the behavior of Jesus' disciples?
2. To what standard did the Pharisees appeal in condemning the practice of these disciples?
3. What was their practice? What else did they do?
4. Was this matter of washing hands a matter of hygiene or ceremony?
5. When they asked Jesus about their practice, who did Jesus quote? How did this apply to the Pharisees? What does this mean?
6. What did Jesus say they had laid aside and rejected by the keeping of their traditions?
7. Jesus illustrated His charge against them by citing the care they gave their parents. What did the law command them to do for their parents? Besides showing respect for them while young, what would this include?
8. Their tradition made it possible for a Jew to take funds they could use for their parents and announce that they were Corban - that is, given to God. In other words, they would claim they could not use these funds to care for their parents because they had dedicated them to God. How did Jesus feel about this practice? What did He say this tradition had done to the word of God?
9. What did Jesus say really defiles a man? How would this apply to their charge against His disciples? How is it that the evil things Jesus describes in vv.21-22 come out of the heart?

B. Further Miracles. Read Mark 7:24-37

1. Where did Jesus go next? Look up these places on a map. Are they close to Galilee? Who would be in areas such as these - Jews or Gentiles? What does this tell us about the kind of people Jesus wanted to reach?
2. What request did the woman make? Was she a Jew or Gentile?
3. How did Jesus first respond? How did the woman demonstrate her faith? What did Jesus do?
4. Who else did Jesus heal? How did He accomplish the miracle?
5. Why did Jesus tell them not to tell anyone else? Did He want others to know of the signs He worked? At this stage, what reaction would such news cause?



Thought Questions

1. Jesus condemned the Pharisees because they violated God's word by their traditions. Can you think of religious traditions today that would be a violation of God's word? How do these make the word of God of no effect?
2. Are all traditions bad? The word tradition means that which has been handed down. What determines whether a tradition is good or bad? Determine whether the following practices are traditions, then determine whether or not they are acceptable. How do you know?
 - Invitation song
 - Wednesday evening service
 - Taking the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week
 - Taking a collection each Sunday
 - Singing with a piano

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Matt. 15:32-39; Mk. 8:22-26
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Matt. 16:13-28
- Day 3: Do Section C, Thought Questions.

Lesson 7

Feeding the Four Thousand; Blind Man Healed; Peter's Confession; Prediction of Death

Matt. 15:32-16:28; Mk. 8:1-9:1; Lk. 9:18-27

A. Feeding the Four Thousand. Read Matthew 15:32-39

1. This miracle is very similar to one previously done by Jesus. He feeds a large multitude with very few provisions.

2. What difference is there between this feeding and the previous one? Cp. Matt. 14:13-21

B. Blind Man Healed. Read Mark 8:22-26

1. How did Jesus heal this man?

2. Was Jesus unable to heal this man completely the first time?

C. Peter's Confession. Read Matthew 16:13-20

1. Jesus now took His apostles into the region of Caesarea Philippi. Find this region on a map. Where is it compared to where Jesus has been teaching? Can you think of why He might want to take them to a more isolated area?

2. What question does He ask them? What are the answers they gave Him? Why would men have thought He was any of these people?

3. What was Peter's answer? What did Jesus mean when He said flesh and blood had not revealed this to him? Could Peter have figured out who Jesus was if God had not provided the testimony of His words and the demonstration of His power?

4. What was the rock upon which Jesus promised to build His church? What had Peter just confessed?
5. What was the church Jesus promised to build? Was it a thing or people?
6. What are the gates of Hades? Is Hades the same as hell? How did the rock upon which Jesus built His church keep the gates of Hades from prevailing against the church?
7. What did Jesus promise to give Peter? What would these keys symbolize?
8. What is meant by binding and loosing the things of heaven on earth? Did Peter do this?

D. Jesus Predicts His Death. Read Matt.16:21-28

1. What did Jesus tell the apostles would happen to Him? Did they understand? How did Peter respond?
2. Why did Jesus rebuke Peter? What did He emphasize about following Him?



Thought Questions

1. The Catholic church teaches that it alone is the true church. Part of their proof is the claim that Jesus made Peter the first pope, or universal father, of the Catholic church. They claim that Jesus said He would build His church on Peter, using Matthew 16:18 as their proof. Can you disprove this idea?
2. Jesus rebuked Peter for minding the things of men instead of the things of God. Is it possible for us to do this? Give one specific example.

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Matt. 17:1-13
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Matt. 17:14-23
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 8
**The Transfiguration;
A Boy is Healed; Further Prediction**
Matt. 17:1-27; Mk. 9:2-32;
Lk. 9:28-56

A. The Transfiguration. Read Matt. 17:1-13

1. Who did Jesus take with Him on this occasion? Where did they go?
2. What happened to Jesus? Describe His appearance.
3. Who appeared and began speaking with Jesus? Can you think of any reason why these two appeared and not others? About what were they speaking? (Cp. Lk. 9:31)
4. What suggestion did Peter make? How does Luke's account help us to understand his suggestion? (Cp. Lk. 9:32,33)
5. What did God indicate at this point? What did He mean by this?
6. What question did the disciples ask about Elijah? How did Jesus answer? Who is the Elijah of whom they were speaking? What did Jesus have in common with Him?

B. A Boy Is Healed. Read Matt. 17:14-21

1. Who approached Jesus when they returned from the mountain? What problem did he have? Who was unable to help him?
2. How did the man respond when Jesus spoke of the need for faith? (Cp. Mk. 9:23,24)
3. What reason did Jesus give His disciples for their inability to cast out the demon?

C. Further Prediction. Read Matt.16:22-23

1. What does Jesus tell His apostles? What is their reaction?
2. How many times had He told them this previously? Do you think they understood what He was describing?
3. Why had Jesus not given them more information about this event?



Thought Questions

1. What benefits did Peter, James and John receive from viewing Jesus' transfiguration? How would it help them to view death? What confidence did it later give them? (Note 2 Pet.1:16-18) What confidence can it give us regarding death?
2. What benefits did Jesus receive by undergoing the transfiguration? What help could Moses and Elijah offer Him? How does it help us when someone has gone through a similar experience to our own?
3. The father of the demon-possessed boy told Jesus "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" What did he mean? Is it possible to believe and not to believe at the same time? When is our faith strongest? When is it likely to be weak? What can we do to strengthen it?
4. The apostles of Jesus had trouble understanding that Jesus would die even though He told them He would suffer death. Why do you think it was difficult for them to understand? Did they believe Jesus was capable of escaping such danger?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read John 9:1-41.
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Luke 10:1-24.
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 9
**Healing at the Pool of Siloam;
Seventy Sent Out**
Jn. 9:1-41; Lk. 10:1-24

A. Healing at the Pool of Siloam. Read Jn.9:1-41

Jesus is now in the final year of His ministry. He fed the 5,000 following the death of John the Baptist during the time of the Passover (Jn.6:4). He will enter Jerusalem the week of His crucifixion at Passover the following year. During this last year, He returns to Jerusalem, but as always, there is controversy with the religious leaders there. They dispute His miracles and charge Him with breaking the law. This story is another example of such conflict.

1. What did the disciples of Jesus ask Him about the blind man? How did Jesus answer?
2. What did Jesus do for the man? What claim had Jesus just made? How did the neighbors react?
3. Where did the neighbors take the man whose sight had been restored? What apparent problem did they think had been created by this miracle?
4. What divided reaction was there concerning those who heard this man's testimony? What did the blind man think Jesus was?
5. Why did the authorities question the parents of the blind man? What did they say? Of what were they fearful?
6. What accusation was made against Jesus? vs.24 At what did the blind man marvel concerning those questioning him? What reasoning did this man make concerning Jesus? vs.33 What excuse did the authorities use?
7. What kind of sight was Jesus really trying to provide? Why were some not able to see?

B. The Seventy Sent Out. Read Lk.10:1-24

The time for Jesus to go to Jerusalem and die is drawing nearer and nearer, yet He still has much teaching to do, especially in the regions around Jerusalem in Judea and across the Jordan in the area of Perea. At this point, He sends out not just twelve, but seventy.

1. Why was Jesus sending out seventy disciples? vs.2
2. What preparation were they to make? Who would provide for them?
3. How were they to respond if their message was rejected?
4. Whose authority did they possess? vs.9, 16
5. Why were the seventy excited when they returned? What did Jesus tell them should cause greater joy?



Thought Questions

1. The disciples of Jesus thought the blind man was blind either because he had sinned or his parents had sinned. Later, the authorities made the same accusation against the man (Jn.9:34). There is a similar belief today that those who suffer do so because they have sinned against God.
 - Is it true that we often suffer consequences because of our sin? Cp. Gal.6:7,8
 - Can we be certain that someone who suffers has sinned? Why or why not?
2. Even though Jesus healed a blind man and the Pharisees could see the result and hear the man's testimony, they still chose not to believe.
 - What reasons can you give for their lack of belief?
 - Are there people today who do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God? Is it because there is not enough evidence to prove He is God's Son? Why do they not believe?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A, B. Read Lk. 10:25-42
- Day 2: Do Section C. Read Lk. 11:1-13, 37-54
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 10
**Good Samaritan; Mary and Martha;
Jesus Teaches Disciples of Prayer;
Pharisees and Lawyers**
Luke 10:25-11:13, 37-54

A. The Parable of the Good Samaritan. Read 10:25-37

1. What did the lawyer ask Jesus? Why?
2. What did Jesus ask him? How correct was his answer?
3. What did the lawyer ask Jesus? Why did he ask? What does this mean?
4. Describe the parable of the good Samaritan. Who should have helped? Who did help?
5. What is the meaning of this parable for us? Who are some people we should be willing to help?

B. Mary and Martha. Read Luke 10:38-42

1. What hospitality did Mary and Martha show Jesus?
2. What complaint did Martha make to Jesus about Mary? What was Mary doing?
3. How did Jesus give Martha? What did He mean?

C. Jesus Teaches About Prayer. Read Lk.11:1-13

1. Why was Jesus qualified to teach His disciples about prayer?
2. Name some important elements that should be a part of our prayer based on the model prayer of Jesus.
3. What does Jesus teach about the need to keep praying to God? Why should we?
4. What charge did Jesus later bring against the Pharisees? Lk.11:37-44
5. How did the Pharisees respond? Lk.11:53-54



Thought Questions

1. Are we ever like the priest or Levite, passing the other way when we see someone in need? Why do you think we do this? Give some reasons. Should we help others in order to supply just their temporary needs? What should be our greater concern?
2. Jesus told Martha that she was worried and troubled about many things. What are some things that can worry and trouble us? Are these things wrong? Why do they become of such concern to us? Could we do without them if we had to? How can we make sure we choose the good part?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A,B. Read Lk.12:13-34
- Day 2: Do Section C. Read Lk.13:1-9,22-33
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 11
**Parable of Rich Fool;
Do Not Worry; Repent or Perish**
Lk. 12:13-34; 13:1-9,22-33

A. Parable of the Rich Fool. Read Lk.12:13-21

1. What question did the man in the crowd ask Jesus?

2. What did Jesus answer? Against what did he warn? What is covetousness?

3. Describe the parable Jesus told, the answer the following questions:
 - Was is wrong for the man to have great possessions? Was it wrong for his crop to undergo a plentiful yield?

 - Was it wrong for this man to make plans for the future? Why or why not?

 - What was this man's attitude toward his life?

 - Why did God call this man a fool? What was his error?

B. Warning Against Worry. Read Lk.12:22-34

1. Name some reasons why worry doesn't work.

2. Give at least two reasons why Jesus says we should not worry.

3. What does worry indicate about the state of our heart?

C. Repent or Perish. Read Lk.13:1-9,22-33

1. What incidents were reported to Jesus?
2. What did Jesus anticipate about who might be blamed for these incidents? What was his answer? What did He mean by this?
3. Jesus tells a parable about a fig tree which fails to bear fruit. Who do you think He had in mind when He told this parable?
4. Jesus continues to make His way toward Jerusalem (vs.22). What question is He asked?
5. How does He answer? How does His answer change the intent of the question? Against what frame of mind does He warn against in the thoughts that follow? Who might this fit among His followers?



Thought Questions

1. Jesus taught a great deal, as in this parable, about our use of riches. Why is our attitude toward riches and our use of them so important? Name some ways that demonstrate how we think our life consists of the abundance of things we possess. What can we do to avoid this?
2. Jesus taught that instead of being concerned specifically with how many are going to be saved, we should concentrate on making sure whether or not what we are doing is acceptable to God. Why should our concern for salvation focus first on ourselves? What are some tests we can give ourselves to make sure we are concerned with striving to enter into the narrow gate?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Lk. 14.
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Lk. 15.
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions

Lesson 12
Parables
Luke 14:1-15:32

A. Jesus is Invited to Dine. Read Luke 14

As the time draws near for Jesus to go to Jerusalem and suffer, there is still teaching to be done. On this occasion, Jesus is invited to the house of a Pharisee to eat bread on the Sabbath. It presents Jesus with an opportunity to do a miracle. Jesus then teaches some very direct principles, albeit by parables. He finishes by issuing a warning to His audience.

1. While Jesus ate with the Pharisees, who was in His midst? How did the Pharisees react? Why do you think they acted this way?
2. Why did Jesus' question silence the Pharisees?
3. Jesus tells a parable about a feast. Why did He tell it? What principle did He teach about self-exaltation?
4. Who did Jesus encourage them to invite to a meal? Why?
5. One of the men at Jesus' table pronounced a blessing on those who would eat bread in the kingdom. Of what kind of meal was he thinking?
6. Jesus responds by telling a parable about an invitation to a great supper. How did people respond? What did the master do as a result? What point do you think Jesus was making?
7. All the things Jesus has said and done up to this point in the chapter would have made Him popular with the common folk. He had healed an individual and rebuked the religious rulers. Now He turns His attention to the multitudes following Him.
 - Jesus says they cannot be His disciples unless they do what three things? What does each one mean?
 - What is important in any venture, whether leading an army, building a tower or becoming a disciple?
 - Why did Jesus want His followers to know this?

B. The Parables of Lost Things. Read Luke 15

1. What is the occasion for Jesus telling the parables in this section? Why would the Pharisees and scribes feel the way they do?
2. What three parables does Jesus tell? What do they all have in common? What do you think the main point is in all of them?
3. In the parable of the lost sons, describe the attitude of the younger son and the change in his thinking throughout the parable. Did he repent?
4. What about the attitude of the older son? What attitudes does he reveal in the comments He makes?
5. What kind of people do each of these sons represent? How did the parable answer the complaint of the Pharisees and scribes?



Thought Questions

1. When politicians are running for public office, do they usually tell people things are going to be better or worse? Easier or harder? Which did Jesus do when He told His followers about being a disciple? Why didn't He try to gain followers by ignoring what would be difficult? What lesson does that teach us today?
2. Why do you think the Pharisees thought they were so much better than others? Do we ever think the same way? Name some reasons why we might. How can we keep from thinking we are better than others?

DAILY ASSIGNMENTS:

- Day 1: Do Section A. Read Lk. 16:1-13
- Day 2: Do Section B. Read Lk. 16:14-17:10
- Day 3: Do Thought Questions.

Lesson 13
Parables;
Rich Man and Lazarus
Lk. 16:1-17:10

A. The Unjust Steward. Read Luke 16:1-13

This parable is harder to understand than some. One reason is because it might appear that Jesus is encouraging us to act in an unjust way like the steward. Read the parable and answer the questions below to determine if that what Jesus is doing.

1. A steward was a man who served his master by exercising control over all that he owned in his household. What accusation is made against this steward?
2. What did the steward realize about his future? As a result, what did he tell those who had a debt to his master?
3. Why did the master commend the steward?
4. Who are the sons of this world and the sons of light? What do you think Jesus means when He says the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light?
5. The steward had two stations in life - one as steward for his master, the other his position after he is no longer steward. To what two things does Jesus compare this in our life? vs.9
6. According to vv.10-12, what is our service and responsibility in this life preparing us for? How will God (and we ourselves) know if we are worthy of responsibility in the life that is to come?
7. What is the underlying principle in the way we use the things God has given us in this life? vs.13

B. The Rich Man and Lazarus. Read Luke 16:19-31

1. Compare the rich man and Lazarus while they are alive.
 - Who is in the better position?
 - What is the condition of Lazarus?
2. How are the roles reversed after death?
3. Hades is the term used to describe the unseen (to our human eyes) realm of the dead. In other words, it is where the spirits of men reside after death.
 - What does it mean when Lazarus is described as being in Abraham's bosom?
 - Describe the rich man's condition. What does he desire from Lazarus?
 - What is fixed between Lazarus and the rich man?
4. What request did the rich man make? Why was it denied?
5. What should we be willing to do when someone sins against us? Lk.17:1-3 This is difficult to do, but what does Jesus go on to teach about the role of a servant? vv.7-10 Should we expect our role in the kingdom to be easy?



Thought Question

1. Jesus does not want us to be dishonest in our dealings with others, but sometimes people in the world use their resources more wisely than we do. Can you think of an example?
2. There is a lot we do not understand about life after death. However, there are some principles about this existence we can learn from the story about Lazarus and the rich man. Name at least two.