

Re:defined



Luke 6:17-49 • 8 September - 6 October 2019

In Luke 6, Jesus is surrounded by an incredible mix of people. The committed, the interested, the desperate-for-change and the onlookers. Maybe there were skeptics too! Some are being healed and some are being set free. But as Jesus begins to teach, everyone is leaning in to listen.

You see, no one taught like this. No one spoke so deeply to their heads and their hearts like Jesus. And as he does, he redefines so many aspects of their lives. What they were living for, how they were treating one another and where their lives were based.

Could it be that Jesus has something to say today? That maybe we too have come to some wrong conclusions and that together we might lean in and listen and let him redefine life for us too.

Outline

1. Luke 6:17-26
2. Luke 6:27-36
3. Luke 6:37-42
4. Luke 6:43-45
5. Luke 6:46-49

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Week 1 • 8 September 2019 • Luke 6:17-26

1. Have a look at Luke 6:17-19. Why do you think such a wide range of people were gathering around Jesus? How does it make you think about the church today?
2. Look at the conditions Jesus links to either blessing or woe.
 - a. What is most striking or challenging about this and why?
 - b. To what extent does Jesus challenge how we define success?
3. The passage turns on whether a person is like a true or false prophet.
 - a. What does 2 Corinthians 2:15-16 suggest about the experience of following Jesus?
 - b. To what extent have you made peace with this?
4. Jesus calls people to ground their hope in the kingdom of God. As you read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, what is different about this sort of hope? What would help you keep this in mind?

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Week 2 • 15 September 2019 • Luke 6:27-36

1. The call of Jesus in this passage is grounded in the character of God. What does this passage tell us about that? (v35-36)
2. Have a look at v 29. It is thought that being slapped in the face was the greatest insult or offence.
 - a. In that case, what might it mean to turn the other cheek?
 - b. What would you find the hardest about doing this?
3. What has been a moment in the last week where you think you treated someone poorly? If you had your time again, what could you have done to treat them as you would want to be treated? (v31)
4. Read verse 35.
 - a. What impact would it have in our society if more people began to live like this?
 - b. Why not pray for one another that God would help us to live more and more like this.

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Week 3 • 22 September 2019 • Luke 6:37-42

1. Jesus raises the issue of forgiveness. He is not saying that states shouldn't convict criminals or that doing wrong is ok, but he is saying we should forgive.
 - a. Why is us forgiving others important to God?
 - b. Why might it be important for us?
 - c. How is forgiving someone different to trusting someone?

2. Verses 39-40 is a parable showing that in order to lead others we need to have an appreciation of our own short-comings. Why might this be important?

3. As you read verses 41-42, what principles do you notice for resolving disagreements or conflict?
 - a. What would be different about conflict in your own life if you adopted this?
 - b. What would be different about some of the conflicts in our society if we engaged like this publicly, too?

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Week 4 • 29 September 2019 • Luke 6:43-45

1. It's helpful to see 'good' and 'bad' fruit (v 43) in line with the context of the preceding verses. As you look at verses 27-42, what might some examples of either good fruit or bad fruit be?
2. Jesus says that what comes out in our lives (actions, thoughts, words) is a reflection of what has been stored up in our hearts.
 - a. What are some of the things we sow into our hearts (e.g. movies, conversations...)?
 - b. How intentional are you with ensuring good gets sown in? What does this look like for you?
3. The narrative of the Bible is that ultimately we need a new heart.
 - a. What do we learn about this from Ezekial 36:26-27?
 - b. If God gives us a new heart through Jesus, is what we "sow" into our hearts still important? Why? Why not?
4. How might you apply Philippians 4:8 to your life?

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Week 5 • 6 October 2019 • Luke 6:46-49

1. Compare the experiences of the people in verses 48-49.
 - a. What are the similarities and differences between the two?
 - b. What is Jesus saying to his followers? Try to summarise it in your own words.
2. The experience common to both was a storm and yet what made the difference was whether their lives were built on putting Jesus' teaching into practice.
 - a. What is the ultimate application here? (John 5:24)
 - b. On a more everyday level, are there times you have seen Jesus' teaching sustain you through difficult circumstances?
3. A useful tool in applying Scripture to our lives is the SOAP method (Scripture, Observation, Application & Prayer). It's simply reading a portion of **Scripture**, noting down an **observation**, prayerfully considering how that could be **applied** to life right now and then **praying** about that.

Why not practice it now with Proverbs 3:1-10. Take 5 minutes on your own to read, observe and consider an application. Then share your thoughts with the group.