

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, April 5, 2009

Passage: Luke 20:41-21:4

Memory Passage: Acts 2:36

Sunday School Question: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Psalm 110.** Jesus quotes from Psalm 110 in v. 42. In reading the psalm through, who is this psalm referring to? How does it describe this person?
- (b) Who is Melchizedek (Gen. 14:18-20)? Why does the book of Hebrews describe Jesus as a priest of Melchizedek (Hebrews 5:1-10; 7:1-28)? Who is “the Lord” referring to in verse 5? How does this affect our reading of vs. 5-7?
- (c) *Think about it:* Why is it important for us to see Christ both as Priest and King? How does Christ as our great high priest allow us to live free from earning our salvation? How does Christ’s kingship affect the decisions we make? How could you better live out these two truths?
- (d) *Family:* Read Psalm 110. The Messiah is being referred to in this Psalm. How does this Psalm describe Him? Talk about who Melchizedek is and why it is so important that Jesus is a priest in his order. How is one to live under a king? What area of your life is it hard to submit to authority? How do we fail to submit to God when we fail to submit to earthly authority? Pray that you would submit yourself to the authority of Christ in all areas of your lives.

DAY 2 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 20:41-44.** Why would it be confusing in this society for a son to be called Lord by his father? What belief is Jesus debating by bringing up this question? Is Jesus debating that the Messiah would be in the lineage of David?
- (b) What does the Davidic covenant promise (2 Samuel 7:8-16)? What part of the covenant is relevant for this passage in Luke?
- (c) How does Jesus later answer the question of “how is the Christ his son” himself (Luke 22:67-71)? How does Peter use this same passage to support his argument in Acts 2:30-36?
- (d) *Think about it:* If someone truly understood what Jesus is saying, do you think his or her view of the messiah would have changed? Why is it important for us to understand that Jesus is more than just a king in the line of David, but also the Son of God (Hebrews 10:11-14)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 20:41-44. Talk about the question Jesus brings up. Why is it an important question? What happens to Jesus if He is just a son of David and not the Lord of David also? Would His death have been sufficient for everyone’s sins? Thank Jesus that He came from heaven and took the form of a servant and took upon Himself the punishment that we deserved.

DAY 3 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 20:45-47.** What kind of attitude do the things in verse 46 describe? Can you think of modern day examples of this in the world? How about in the church? How about in your own life?
- (b) What kind of attitude are we suppose to have (Luke 22:24-27)? Are we to serve only those who are our friends (Luke 10:29-37)? Why or why not?
- (c) What does it say about the depth of the Pharisees greed that they would be willing to take from widows? How are we supposed to treat widows (1 Timothy 5:3; James 1:27)?
- (d) *Think about it:* It is easy to point out how other people are like this, but a more important question is how are you like the scribes that are describe by Jesus? Do you like to wear your best so that others will think well of you and notice you? Do you like to be singled out and greeted in public? Do your prayers sound like an excerpt from the KJV?
- (e) *Something to do:* We all fall prey to vanity, pride, greed, and hypocrisy at times. The important question is what do you do when you do fail? Do you go to God and confess? Do you confess to those whom you have sinned against? If it’s a consistent struggle, do you openly acknowledge that you struggle with this? All of these things the scripture tells us to do so that we can experience the freedom that Christ brings into our lives.
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 20:45-47. Talk about the attitude of the Scribes. What would modern day examples of these actions be? Read Luke 10:29-37. How does the attitude of the Samaritan differ from the scribes? How do you act like the scribes at times? Take some time to pray for everyone and how they might uniquely struggle with pride and with selfishness.

DAY 4 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT**READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 20:45-47.** In verse 47, Jesus says that these leaders will incur a greater condemnation. Why is that (Matthew 23:13-15; James 3:1)? Why do leaders incur stricter judgment?
- (b) What does the New Testament say about submitting to one's leaders (Hebrews 13:17; Titus 3:1-2)? What kind of attitude are we to have in submission?
- (c) Ephesians 5:21 says that a spirit filled life will be a submissive one. How does this conflict with our societies and our own way of looking at rights? Why are we to submit to one another according to Ephesians 5:21? What does this mean? How do the following verses in Ephesians fill out diversity in submission?
- (d) *Think about it:* How is the submission of a wife to a husband different than a husband to a wife, and a child to a parent and a worker to their boss? Would you say that your life is one that is marked with a submissive spirit or one that is eager to affirm its own rights? Do you revere/fear Christ as you should?
- (e) *Something to do:* Ephesians 5:21 talks about submitting to each other because of reverence or fear of Christ. While we are secure in the love of Christ, His power and majesty should instill reverence or fear within us as well. Take 5-10 minutes today and reflect upon the person of Christ and meditate upon Revelation 19:11-16 and the greatness of our Lord.
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 20:34-36. Talk about the responsibilities that leaders have. Why is it important to have leaders? Why do they incur more responsibility when things go wrong? What is our proper response to authority? Read Ephesians 5:21. What does this passage and the following verses say about the different kinds of submission? Are you submitting to the authority that God has placed over you? Why or why not? Pray for those who are in authority over you including dad, mom, bosses, teachers and government officials.

DAY 5 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT**READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Luke 21:1-4.** Why might the amount that the rich were giving not be mentioned in this passage? What comparison does Jesus make between the rich and this poor widow?
- (b) What does it say about the widow's faith that she was able to give so much? What does it say about her love for God?
- (c) How does this passage stand in contrast to the previous two? What does the woman understand that the scribes do not?
- (d) What is your giving like? Are you practicing sacrificial giving? What might be keeping you from giving sacrificially or with a cheerful heart (2 Corinthians 9:7)? Sometimes we fail to give God other things such as time, skills, etc.; are their things that you have kept for yourself and are not willing to give to God?
- (e) *Something to do:* Ask yourself, am I being purposeful in my spending? Talk to your wife if you are married, and look at your finances. Look at those areas of spending that aren't necessities. Take some time to pray and give those areas over to God and ask Him what He wants you to do with them. All things are God's and He calls us to steward them according to His will.
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 21:1-4. Talk about the comparison that Jesus draws. What is the difference between the giving of the rich and the giving of the widow? Why would someone be motivated to give sacrificially like this? Do you as a family know anybody who is in need? How could you give sacrificially to another? What would giving sacrificially look like for your family? Pray for wisdom and discernment in what God might want you to do in giving to others.

DAY 6 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT**READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE**

- (a) *Think back through what you have learned each day this week.* What has stuck out this week? What did God speak to you about this week? Don't delay in obeying what God might have told you to do this week. Make a note of something in particular that God has shown you in your life and share it on Sunday. When we talk about what God is doing in our life, it encourages the body, and more importantly, it glorifies God!

DATE: April 5, 2009

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Giving All for the Kingdom
"she put all she had to live on"