

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, June 8, 2008

Passage: Luke 8:40-56

Memory Passage: John 11:40

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

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:40-42.** Where had Jesus returned from? Compare the reaction of these people with those in Luke 8:37.
- (b) Who approaches him when he arrives? What was this man's position and why is it significant? What was one of the things that a man in this position did (Acts 13:15; Luke 4:16-17)?
- (c) What was a common reaction of the synagogue rulers to Jesus (Luke 13:14)? What had they agreed together (John 9:22)? Why do you think that Jarius was willing to take this risk?
- (d) How are desperate times and personal crises opportunities for ministry? Why are people more open to spiritual things and the gospel during these times?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:40-42. Who do you know that is experiencing a physical crisis right now? How can you pray for them? What can you do for them to show the love of Christ? Pray that they might look to Jesus in their situation.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:43-44.** Compare this woman's position with that of Jarius. What would have been her relationship to the synagogue and to the rest of the people in the community (Leviticus 15:23-33)?
- (b) What had she been doing to change her situation? What does Mark add that Luke does not have (Mark 5:26)? Why might Luke have left this out (Colossians 4:14)?
- (c) What happened when she touched the hem of Jesus' garment? What position would she have been in? What does this tell us about her humility (Isaiah 57:15)?
- (d) Why did she do this (Matthew 9:21)? What did she expect? What does this tell us about her faith? How is faith important for seeing God work in any situation (Hebrews 11:6)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:43-46 and Philippians 4:6. How can we be bold in believing and still humble in asking? How would you have approached Jesus if you were the woman? Pray you will have faith to seek the Lord for everything.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:45-50.** Why was the woman afraid? How would *her confession* help Jarius in *his* faith?
- (b) What did Jesus tell her? Does this refer to her healing or also to her salvation? What does he call her?
- (c) What happened because of the "delay" from healing the woman? How do you think you might feel in such a situation? Have you ever questioned God's timing (especially His "delays")?
- (d) Read John 11:1-15. What was the relationship between Jesus and Lazarus? What is surprising about Jesus' response to the sisters' request? Why did Jesus delay and not go immediately (John 11:4; John 11:14-15)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:45-50 and John 11:4 and 11:15. Does it sometimes seem like God delays in giving His answers? What can we do during those times? How does faith respond? Pray for someone who has been praying a long time for God's answer. What is one way that you can be an encouragement to this person?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read John 11:20-45.** How strong were Martha and Mary's faith (John 11:22; 11:32)? What was lacking in their faith?
- (b) What did Jesus tell the disciples in John 11:40? What had Jesus told his disciples beforehand (John 11:4)? What is the main reason that Jesus either heals or does not heal?
- (c) Read Luke 8:51-56. Why did Jesus require all the mourners to leave? Was she dead or just asleep (John 11:11-13; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-15; John 11:13; Daniel 12:2; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22; Acts 13:36)?
- (d) Why did Jesus command that she be given something to eat (Luke 24:41)?
- (e) *Family:* Read John 11:20-45. Talk about God's healing. Does He *always* heal? What are some of the reasons He might not choose to heal? Is the problem sometimes our lack of faith? Pray that you can trust God's will in every situation.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Matthew 12:16-21.** What do the pictures of a “bruised reed” and “smoking flax” convey? Many of the prophecies of the Messiah convey His power. What does this prophecy convey?
- (b) What do the following verses tell us about the ministry of Jesus: Matthew 9:36; Matthew 14:14; Matthew 15:32; Matthew 20:34; Mark 1:41; Mark 6:34; Mark 8:2; Luke 7:13? Why did Jesus do these miracles?
- (c) Look back at John 11:33-38. What does this show you about the love and compassion that Jesus had? What does it show us about his humanity?
- (d) What do these passages show us about the grief of even believers (1 Thessalonians 4:13; Acts 8:2)?
- (e) *Family:* Matthew 12:16-21 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13. Discuss the grief of Christians. How is it different from that of non-believers? Are tears a lack of faith? Pray for someone that you know is going through an emotional time, especially for someone who has lost a loved one to death recently. Pray for God’s peace and comfort for them.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Luke 8:40-56. What have you learned this week about the power of Jesus? What has this week’s lesson shown you about the availability of Jesus to all kinds of people? What does this lesson show you about His love and compassion toward you? Pray that the power and the compassion of Jesus might be clear tomorrow and that some might be lead to trust in Him.

DATE: June 8, 2008

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Power over Death and Disease

“Somebody touched me...”