

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, July 6, 2008

Passage: Luke 9:46-50

Memory Passage: Luke 9:56

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 9:46-48.** Go back and do some review in Luke 9:1-6. What had the disciples been doing? How do you think they felt (Luke 10:17-20)? What did Jesus caution them?
- (b) What other exciting events were they part of (Luke 9:12-17; 9:28-36)? How did they feel about these?
- (c) What were the disciples arguing about (Luke 9:46-48; Mark 9:33-36)? Why?
- (d) What are some of the things that pride does to us (1 Corinthians 3:3-7; Galatians 5:26; 3 John 1:9)?
- (e) How does God respond to pride in our lives (James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 9:46-48 and 1 Peter 5:5. Talk together about pride. What is it? How does it affect us? How does it affect the way we relate to others? Pray that you might have a humble heart before the Lord this week.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 9:47-48.** What did Jesus do to make clear the importance of having a humble heart? Why is becoming like a child essential for even *entering* the Kingdom (Matthew 18:2-4, Mark 10:15)? What did Jesus mean by this?
- (b) Why is humility also essential for *living* the Christian life? What are some ways that we can develop a humble heart (Romans 12:3; Philippians 2:3; Ephesians 4:32)?
- (c) What is another way that God sometimes brings humility into our lives (2 Corinthians 12:5-7)?
- (d) What does Jesus tell his disciples the greatest must be (also Mark 10:42-44)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 9:47-48 and Mark 10:42-45. Discuss how becoming like a child is essential for becoming a Christian. How is it also essential for *living* for Jesus? What can you do this week to learn humility? Pray that God might bring you circumstances in your life this week to bring humility into your heart.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 9:49-50.** What incident takes place after their argument about greatness? How is pride also a factor in this situation?
- (b) Do believers ever speak wrongly about the ministry of others because of pride like this? What did Jesus remind them?
- (c) Read Philippians 1:15-18. Why were some people preaching? Were their motives right? How did Paul say he would respond and why?
- (d) What kind of attitude did Paul develop toward the work of the gospel? How did that protect his heart from pride?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 9:49-50 and Philippians 1:15-18. Have you ever talked negatively about the ministries of others? Take some time to pray for others who are doing the work of the Lord around the world.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 9:51-56.** What does Luke mean, “he set his face to go to Jerusalem?” What incident occurs that also shows the pride of the disciples and the mercy of Jesus?
- (b) Read Proverbs 3:3 and Proverbs 11:17. What do these verses tell us about mercy? How has God given you mercy (Ephesians 2:4)? How should that affect the way we treat others (Ephesians 4:32)?
- (c) How does James 1:19-20 tell us to respond in our anger? Why? What do these Proverbs tell us about keeping our tongue in times of anger (Proverbs 10:19; Proverbs 18:3; Proverbs 21:23)? What do these tell us about anger (Proverbs 15:18; Proverbs 17:14; Proverbs 19:11; Proverbs 25:28)?
- (d) What principle did Paul give us in Romans 12:21? How did Jesus respond when he was wronged (1 Peter 2:21-23)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 9:51-56 and Romans 12:21. Does your anger ever keep you from showing mercy to others? How has God given you mercy in Christ? Pray that you might have a heart of mercy toward those who wrong you.

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

- (a) **Read Luke 9:57-62.** How many men approach Jesus in these verses? What do all of them say? Do they all sound serious about their commitment to Jesus?
- (b) What does Jesus remind the first one? Why is it important that a disciple realize this about following Jesus? What did Jesus tell his disciples in Matthew 10:16?
- (c) What issue did the second man raise? What seems harsh about the way Jesus responded? What was the man actually referring to? What was he probably waiting on (Luke 12:13-21)?
- (d) What request did the third man make? Does this seem reasonable? What does Jesus say about following him in Luke 14:25-26?
- (e) What proverb did Jesus quote to show the problem of not following him with our whole hearts? What is the picture of a man looking back when he plows?
- (f) *Family:* Read Luke 9:57-62 and talk about what it means to really follow Jesus with all your heart. What are some things that we all hold back on? Pray that you might really follow Jesus wherever he leads.

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

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Luke 9:46-50. Discuss what pride does to us. How does it affect relationships between believers? How does it affect the way we respond to the lost (especially when they reject the gospel)? How does it affect the way we extend mercy to others? Is giving up our pride part of following Jesus? Pray for tomorrow's teaching that many will be willing to follow the Lord with all their hearts.

DATE: July 6, 2008

PASSAGE: Luke 9:46-50

A Humble Ministry

“for the Son of Man came not to destroy men’s lives but to save them.”