

Next Week's Text - Luke 10:25-42

Thought/conversation starters:

1. What connection do you see between 10:21-22 and Luke 10:25-29?
2. The lawyer (an expert in Old Testament law) was "seeking to justify himself" by creating a class of people he did not have to love. How does the parable Jesus tells in response to this challenge the lawyer's attempt at self-justification?
 - How do you find yourself attempting self-justification before God?
 - What category of people do you find yourself refusing to love?
 - What aspect of God's love for you empowers a change of attitude toward this category of people?
3. The parable of the Good Samaritan (loving neighbor) is linked with the story of Mary and Martha (loving God). As demonstrated by Mary, we are built for regular rhythm of rest and restoration with Jesus. How is this going for you?
 - How is this connected to your ability to love others well?



March 1, 2020

The Kingdom of God has Come Near

March 1, 2020 | Luke 10:1-24 | Pastor Roger Williams

Jesus joyfully shows his Kingdom to those willing to see.

Luke 10 ¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ² And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. ⁷ And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

Jesus shows the presence of his kingdom

¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. ¹³ “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴ But it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ¹⁵ And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You shall be brought down to Hades. ¹⁶ “The one who hears me, and the one who rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

Jesus shows the warning of his kingdom

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” ¹⁸ And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and

over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Jesus shows the power of his kingdom

²¹ In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²² All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

²³ Then turning to the disciples he said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! ²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”

Jesus shows the joy of his kingdom

Romans 1 ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Proverbs 1 ⁷ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Isaiah 11:6

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.