

Luke 17-18

“When the Son of Man Comes, Will He Find Faith on Earth?”

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Sunday,
May 17

As Jesus made his way to Jerusalem, listen to what he said:

“ _____ to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ... Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, _____ him, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.” (17:1-4)

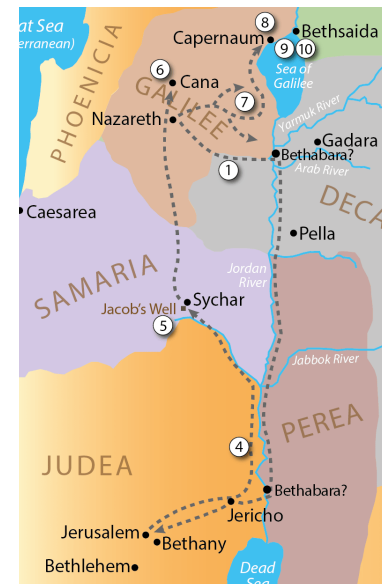
In 17:10, he emphasized how his disciples ought to think:

“So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are _____ servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

As he passed along between Samaria and Galilee, Jesus healed ten lepers, but only one—a _____—took the time to thank him (17:11-19). When asked by the Pharisees about the kingdom of God, Jesus boldly declared that “the kingdom of God is in the _____ of you” (17:20-21), but he went on to describe difficult days that were coming when “the vultures” would gather around “the corpse” (17:22-37). Things were not how they should have been in Jerusalem.

In 18:1-8, he told his disciples a parable, “that they ought always to _____ and not lose heart.” In 18:8 he asked, “when the Son of Man comes, will he find _____ on earth?” He also told a parable (18:9-14) to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt. He drew attention to children (18:15-17), emphasizing that “whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” In 18:31-34, he very straightforwardly told the twelve what was about to happen in Jerusalem. Clearly, very heavy things were on Jesus’ mind, but notice what he taught us in these chapters...

- Don’t be a source of temptation.
- Be willing to _____.
- We are all unworthy servants.
- We ought always to be _____.
- Jesus’ kingdom is different.
- When the Son of Man comes, he will be looking for humble, child-like _____.



For Class & Family Discussion:

- What do you think? What does it mean to be a “source” of temptation (17:1-2) to other people? How can we guard against that?
- Is what Jesus taught in 17:3-4 easy for anyone to practice? Why does God care so much about our willingness to forgive other people?
- What will it look like or sound like for you to serve King Jesus as an “unworthy servant” (17:10)? Why does Jesus want us to live with that sort of humble attitude?
- What can we learn from the story of the ten lepers being cleansed by Jesus (17:11-19)?
- In 17:22-37, Jesus described some dark, difficult days that were approaching. What do you think he was talking about? What is he describing as “the corpse” (17:37)?
- In what ways is Jesus’ kingdom very different from the kingdoms of this world (17:20-21)? Why is it really important for us to keep those differences in mind?
- What do you and I need to see and remember from Jesus’ parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector (18:9-14)?
- What do you think? What does it mean to “receive the kingdom of God like a child” (18:17)?
- We weren’t there, but what do we need to see from the story of the rich ruler (18:18-30)?
- Remember the goal of Luke’s Gospel—“that you may have certainty” (1:4). How does Luke 17-18 help us grow in certainty about Jesus?