

The Gospel of Luke

Lesson 25

In Luke 13, Jesus exhorts men to repent. If they fail to do so, they will perish. Jesus then confronts the hypocrisy of Jewish religious leaders by deliberately healing a crippled woman on the Sabbath. He rebukes them, asking, "Should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

In the parables of the mustard seed and yeast, Jesus makes the point that the Kingdom of God starts small on earth but will continue to spread until it encompasses the world. And finally Jesus laments over Jerusalem, longing to gather her children to Himself like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wing. But Jerusalem's children were not willing.

As you begin this lesson, please take a moment to pray. Ask God for help in understanding His Word, that you might grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus, the light of this world.

Jesus at a Pharisee's House

1. Read Luke 14:1-14.
 - A. From verse 1, where and with whom did Jesus go to eat?

- B. Using a dictionary, define “prominent.”

- C. From your knowledge of the Old Testament, what day of the week is the Sabbath?

- D. Why do you think Jesus was being carefully watched?

2. From verse 2:

- A. Who else was there?

- B. What was this individual suffering from?

- C. Using a dictionary, describe this condition.

3. From verses 3 and 4:

- A. What question does Jesus ask the Pharisees and experts of the law?

B. What is their response?

C. From Luke 13:14-17, Exodus 20:8-11, Isaiah 45:18-19, Psalm 46:10, Habakkuk 2:20, and Matthew 12:1-8:

(1) Why do you think the leaders responded as they did?

(2) What are some of the deeper issues here?

D. How does Jesus respond to the man?

4. From verses 5 and 6:

A. What question does Jesus direct to the Pharisees and experts in the law? What point is Jesus making?

B. What is the response of the Jewish leaders to Jesus' question?

5. Read Luke 14:7-14:

A. What were other guests doing at the Pharisee's house that led to Jesus' remarks and instruction?

B. In what ways are the same attitudes and actions evident in our culture today?

C. What are our attitude and actions to be toward God and man according to Luke 14:10-11, Proverbs 25:6-7, Philippians 2:3-4, James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5-6?

D. Read Luke 14:12-14.

(1) Regarding hospitality, state the principle to be observed. How might it be implemented?

- (2) Note the promise Jesus gives to those who follow this principle. Are you never to invite your friends, relatives or rich friends to your home? Please explain your answer.

The Parable of the Great Banquet

6. Read Luke 14:15-24.
- A. Upon hearing Jesus' remarks regarding self-exaltation, humility and true hospitality, one of the guests said to him, "Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God." What reason might he have had for speaking in this manner? Do you think he was including himself in the feast?
- B. Jesus tells a story in reply. Describe this parable.

- C. Are the excuses offered in the parable legitimate? Why or why not?

- D. From Luke 14:24, whose banquet is it?

- E. Referring to this parable, as well as to Ezekiel 18:30-32 and 33:10-11, what would you identify as the main principle and point? What application would you make for others and yourself?

The Cost of Being a Disciple

- 7. Read Luke 14:25-35.
 - A. How do you reconcile what Jesus says in Luke 14:26-27 with Luke 6:27-28 and John 12:25? What does it mean to hate your own life?

B. In Luke 14:28-33, Jesus gives two examples regarding the cost of discipleship.

(1) Describe them.

(2) What are the costs of discipleship today?

(3) In what ways are you challenged to be His disciple?

(4) As you seek to follow the Lord, what encouragement, comfort and assurance do you derive from Romans 8:31, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Philippians 1:3-6, Hebrews 4:15-16 and 13:5-6?

8. Read Luke 14:34-35 and Matthew 5:13.
- A. Jesus calls His disciples to be the _____.
 - B. What are the properties and characteristics of this element that make it a blessing and a detriment?
 - (1) Blessing
 - (2) Detriment
 - C. What counsel and instruction does Micah 6:8 provide to those who want to become disciples of Jesus Christ?
 - D. From your study of Luke 14 and a review of Luke 13:
 - (1) Why does Jesus rebuke the Pharisees and experts of the law?
 - (2) What were they doing and failing to do?
 - (3) What danger were they in?