

Living Room Church February 24th

In the past few months we have read a number of individual interactions that Jesus had with people of all different needs and stature. This week we begin to bring these together to look at a bigger picture.

1. Luke 7:1-10 - Centurian's slave healed
2. Luke 7:11-17 - Jesus raises widow's only son back to life
3. Luke 7:18-35 - John's disciples come and ask the question Who is Jesus?
4. Luke 7:36-50 - Jesus anointed by "sinful woman"
5. Luke 8:1-15 - Parable "Seed among the soils"
6. Luke 8:16-21 - Parable of the lamp
7. Luke 8:22-25 - Jesus calms the storm
8. Luke 8:26-39 - Jesus heals a demoniac in the Gerasenes
9. Luke 8:40-56 - Jesus heals the women with the issue of blood.
10. Luke 9:1-6 - Jesus sends/commissions disciples for ministry
11. Luke 9:10-14 - Jesus feeds 5000
12. Luke 9:15-27 - Who is Jesus, and what does it mean to follow Him?
13. Luke 9:28-36 - Transfiguration

?? *as you look over these chapters and headings what have you been learning about Who Jesus is and What it*

means to follow Him? If you need a refresher turn to the references and reread the Biblical account.

1. *Who is Jesus*

2. *What does it mean to follow Him?*

In today's account in Luke we read:

Luke 9:37-50 (ESV)

³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him.

³⁸ And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child.

³⁹ And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him.

⁴⁰ And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not."

⁴¹ Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear

with you? Bring your son here.”

42 While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

43 And all were astonished at the majesty of God. But while they were all marveling at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples,

44 “Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men.”

45 But they did not understand this saying, and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

46 An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest.

47 But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side

48 and said to them, “Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great.”

49 John answered, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us.”

50 But Jesus said to him, “Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you.

In today's scripture we see Jesus give a very strong rebuke. **Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you?"**

?? Can you identify the four areas where the disciples failed to understand who Jesus was and How to follow Him?

See the following verses:

Failure #1 - vrs 40 (*also see Luke 9:1 Notice the word "all" in this verse.*)

In verse 42 we see Satan working hard to keep the boy away from Jesus...

?? What are the some things in our lives or world that work at keeping people from finding freedom in Jesus?

Failure #2 - vrs 44-45 (*Possibly the result of hearing Jesus strong rebuke*)

Today we know what Jesus did and that He was taken away, died and rose again.

?? *We don't struggle with what the disciples were hearing for the first time, but what are some of Jesus teachings that are difficult for you?*

Failure #3 - vrs 46-48 (*Possibly there were some special feelings going around after only a few went with Jesus up to the mountain to pray and witnessed the Transfiguration.*)

Today we too can desire to be the greatest

?? *What does it mean to you that Jesus said "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great."*

Failure #4 – vrs 49-50 (*from the beginning of creation this has been an issue for those following after God*)

There is a great fear that somehow we will be tainted if we march side by side with those who do not believe like we do. I remember a time in my life where I was really struggling working with another Christian who had different beliefs than I did (not pertain to salvation) but in other matters of spiritual practice. I remember sitting across from them one day and the Lord by His grace brought down the barrier I had built up. I look back on this as one of my greatest areas of spiritual growth.

?? *What are some of the barriers you/we have built which keeps us from Christian fellowship?*

Answers to the 4 failures:

- 1. Lost the Power that Jesus had given them to help others*
- 2. Failure to ask for understanding*
- 3. Failure to see their true position*
- 4. Failure to understand that following Jesus isn't about being a part of a certain group*

When you read about the disciples failures and hear Jesus Response how will you "Let These Words of mine (Jesus) sink into your ears?"

?? How are the disciples failures similar to your/ours 2000 years later?

As we follow Luke's account of Jesus' witness and teaching we see him tearing down social boundaries, bringing people to healing physically and spiritually. The disciples still had much to learn about who Jesus was and what it means to follow Him and were actively putting up new boundaries which were restricting the Kingdom of God.

1. As you consider today's lesson what are areas in your life you would like to change (what is the Holy Spirit saying to you?)
2. What will you do about it?
3. How can others help you get there?