

DISAPPOINTMENT WITH GOD

"Evil lurks where disappointment lodges."

George Foreman

FIVE CAUSES FOR OUR DISAPPOINTMENT:

ANTIDOTE = "A MEDICINE TAKEN OR GIVEN TO COUNTERACT A PARTICULAR POISON"

1. OUR OWN _____ CHOICES.

SOLOMON:

PROVERBS 19:3

ANTIDOTE: I NEED TO _____ MY DECISIONS BEFORE GOD.

DAVID:

PSALM 51:4

2. WE EXAGGERATE THE ______ OF NOT FOLLOWING GOD.

ASAPH PART I:

PSALM 73:1-5

ANTIDOTE: I NEED TO TAKE THE ______

ASAPH PART II:

PSALM 73:15-18, 23-24

3. WE DON'T HAVE THE THE FULL ______.

JACOB:

GENESIS 42:36

"There is just so much hurt, disappointment, and oppression one can take... The line between reason and madness grows thinner."

Rosa Parks

"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

ANTIDOTE: I NEED TO TRUST THAT GOD KNOWS THE BIGGER

PAUL:

ROMANS 8:28

"Keep on beginning and failing. Each time you fail, start all over again, and you will grow stronger until you have accomplished a purpose - not the one you began with perhaps, but one you'll be glad to remember."

Anne Sullivan

4. WE HAVE DONE THE RIGHT THING AND IT HAS TURNED OUT

JOHN THE BAPTIST:

LUKE 7:18-20

ANTIDOTE: I NEED TO RUN BACK TO THE _____ BEHIND MY _____.

JESUS:

LUKE 7:21-28

5. WE HAVE NOT ACCEPTED GOD'S _____ IN OUR LIFE.

THE PHARISEES:

LUKE 7:29-35

ANTIDOTE: I NEED TO BE A _____ OR A _____ UNDER AUTHORITY.

THE CENTURION:

LUKE 7:1-10

Fill in the blanks: foolish, own, benefits, long view, picture, purpose, wrong, facts, faith, authority, man, woman

This Study Guide will help you go deeper throughout the week with daily scripture reading and questions for your own personal reflection and application. It is also designed to be used for discussion with your family, friends and Life Group.

OPEN UP

As a child, what family rules did you think were silly or hard to understand? How do you view those rules now?

DAY 1: READ 6:1-26

What is the main issue for the Pharisees in vv. 1-11? For Jesus? How does Jesus clarify the Sabbath issue (vv.5,9)? When have you felt tension between obeying religious principles and helping people?

Who is in the crowd when Jesus begins teaching (v. 17-19)? Why have they come? How does Jesus meet their needs?

According to Jesus, what four qualities ought to characterize "kingdom people" (vv. 20-22)? What blessing is promised for each of these qualities? Are they present or future blessings?

DAY 2: READ LUKE 6:27-49

How does this description (vv.27-36) of love challenge you? How can it serve as a model for relating to someone you find difficult?

What activities does Jesus condemn and command (vv.37-38)? Does v. 37 say that we must love others before God will love us? Why or why not?

In light of this three-fold passage (vv.41-45), how would you recommend approaching people who need help or correction?

DAY 3: READ LUKE 7:1-17

How does the elder's request for Jesus' help differ from the centurion's (vv. 4-8)? What characteristics of the centurion's attitude and request would be helpful to remember when we ask God for help?

DAY 3: READ LUKE 7:1-17 CONT.

Why did Jesus perform the miracle for the widow? What did he reveal about himself? What impact did he have on others?

How does Jesus' power over death affect the way you live your life?

DAY 4: READ LUKE 7:18-35

What question does John tell his men to ask Jesus (v. 20)? Why? How do you view this question considering John is asking this question from prison?

What six things characterize Jesus' ministry (v. 22)?

How does the people's response to John contrast to that of the Pharisees (v. 29)? How are the followers of the Pharisees like children?

Looking at verses 33-34, are you more like John or Jesus in your lifestyle? Would you be more effective if you lived differently? Why or why not?

DAY 5: READ LUKE 7:36-50

What risk was this "sinful woman" taking in coming to the house of Simon, the Pharisee? What does this tell you about her state of mind?

What do you think Jesus' purpose was in telling the parable in verses 41-43? Why didn't he just accuse Simon of not loving enough?

In what areas of your life do you need to reach out and "touch" Jesus? What kind of healing do you need to receive from him?What have you learned from this story that you could apply this week?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

When the centurion's valued servant was going to die, he entrusted his friends to appeal to Jesus on his behalf- and they did so earnestly. Christian friends and mentors are vital in helping us stay encouraged in our faith journeys. This week, reach out to someone who has either affirmed, encouraged, or been an example to you in your faith journey, and let them know of their impact in your life. Ask them if there's anything they'd like you to pray for them!