STOP WAITING

LUKE 9

1. TO SERVE OTHERS

LUKE 9:57-58

⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

LUKE 9:1-6

¹ When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ He told them: "Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt. ⁴ Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. ⁵ If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." ⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere.

WHAT WOULD YOUR REACTION BE?

2. FOR A CONVENIENT MOMENT

LUKE 9:59-60

⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

LUKE 9:23-24

²³ Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

GALATIANS 2:20

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

STOP WAITING TO:

- 1. READ THE BIBLE
- 2. FIND COMMUNITY AND LIVE ON MISSION
- 3. SERVE OTHERS
- 4. COMMIT TO A LOCAL CHURCH

3. ON YOUR "FIRST LET ME..." LIST

LUKE 9:60-62

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family." ⁶² Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

1 KINGS 19:19-20

¹⁹ So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. ²⁰ Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye," he said, "and then I will come with you." "Go back," Elijah replied. "What have I done to you?"

ARE YOU FIT FOR SERVICE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

LUKE 9:22-24

²² And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." ²³ Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

This Study Guide provides a daily reading plan to read through the Gospel of Luke on your own during the week. The following questions are provided for your personal reflection and application and for you to discuss with your family, friends, and Life Group. While the sermons will not be able to cover every passage in Luke, the Study Guide and daily readings will. If you are missing any Study Guides, they are available at the Connect Center or online with the sermon archives each week.

OPEN UP

When have you taken a risk and stood for Jesus in a public way? What happened?

DAY 1: READ LUKE 12:1-12

What warnings (vv. 1-3) does Jesus issue the disciples?

How does hypocrisy work like yeast?

Why does Jesus encourage his disciples to fear, yet be fearless (vv. 4-7)?

What does Jesus teach about the believer's security when facing human oppression (vv. 11-12)?

DAY 2: READ LUKE 12:13-34

How pervasive is the attitude, "Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry" (v. 19) in our society? How can this attitude affect your relationship with God?

With what part of this parable can you relate? What parts make you uncomfortable?

What does Jesus teach here about seeking the kingdom of God?

How would your life be different if you lived the way Jesus sets forth in this passage?

DAY 3: READ LUKE 12:35-59

How are "watching" and "waiting" used in this passage?

DAY 3: READ LUKE 12:35-59 CONT.

What should be the attitude and the actions of the faithful and wise manager (vv. 42-43)? What could tempt the servants to do wrong (v. 45)?

How and why does Jesus bring division? Why do you think Jesus wishes the fire was already kindled?

What accounted for the crowd's inability to interpret the signs' of Jesus' time?

DAY 4: READ LUKE 13:1-17

What is the danger of associating someone's misfortune with sin?

In verses 6-9, who does the tree represent: the owner? Farmer? Why the urgency?

How does Jesus expose the synagogue ruler's hypocrisy (vv.15-16)?

DAY 5: READ LUKE 13:18-35

What does the contrast between the seed and the tree teach about the power of God's kingdom? What does yeast teach about?

According to Jesus, who will make it through the narrow door and who won't (v. 30)?

If God loves people, why isn't the door wider? Who are the ones outside? Why isn't eating or drinking with Jesus enough?

What does Jesus reveal about his intentions (vv. 32-33)? What does his response reveal about him?

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Jesus emphasized the importance of believers truly knowing God. Journal a response to these questions: What does it mean to know God? To be known by God? How can you prioritize your relationship with God starting this week?