

Jesus: The Good News

Surrender: Easier Said than Done

Sermon Discussion Guide for the week of September 30, 2015

Main Point: Jesus calls us to surrender more, not try harder.

Luke 13:22-30

CONNECT

Which of the below statements do you think is false. **Answer is at the end of this guide**

- Anne Frank, Martin Luther King Jr., and Barbara Walters were born in the same year.
- Oxford University is older than the Aztec Empire.
- Cleopatra lived closer to the invention of the iPhone than she did to the building of the Great Pyramid.
- France was still executing people with a guillotine when the first Star Wars film came out.
- The last time the Chicago Cubs won the baseball World Series, the Ottoman Empire still existed.
- Betty White is actually older than sliced bread.

What are some things you thought were true as a child that you now know are false?

When you think of the word surrender what images come to mind? Are they positive or negative images?

LEARN

Have a volunteer read Luke 13:22-30.

What do you think is Jesus' main point in these verses?

According to Jesus, who will make it through the narrow door and who won't?

What effort on our part is Jesus talking about?

What do you think Jesus means when He says many will seek or try to enter through the narrow gate but won't be able?

If God loves people, why isn't the door wider?

What stands out to you about the homeowner's response to the people knocking (vv. 25-27)?

Why isn't eating and drinking with Jesus enough?

What do you think Jesus means by "evil-doers?"

Do we complicate the decision to follow Jesus? How comfortable are you with the simplicity of the gospel?

How do you know whether you are inside or outside the kingdom? How can you be sure?

Who would you be surprised to see in heaven? Why?

Who do you think deserves to be shut outside the kingdom of God? Why?

How do you think Jesus would respond to those who seek to enter the kingdom by comparing themselves to others?

SERVE

How would your relationship with God be different if He demanded perfection and repentance wasn't an option?

What can you do this week to show God how much you appreciate His grace and mercy?

What are some specific ways you've seen God's power at work in your life when you've faced temptations?

PRAYER

Spend time in silent prayer, giving your group members the opportunity to voice prayers of repentance for sin. After a few minutes, close with a prayer of thanks to God for the power He gives us to fight back against the enemy.

All of the statements listed in the Connect block are true



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