

Faith Promise - Week 2

Why Missions? The Rich Man and Lazarus

Sermon Discussion Guide for the week of November 11, 14-15, 2015

Main Point: God's love should move us to serve others and proclaim the gospel to the lost.

Luke 16:19-31

CONNECT

C. S. Lewis once said, "There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, civilization—these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit—immortal horrors or everlasting splendors."

What do you think Lewis mean by this?

Do you tend to think of the people around you this way? Why or why not?

What keeps us from maintaining an eternal mind set about ourselves? About the people around us?

LEARN

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 16:19-31.

Why do you think Jesus is telling this parable to the Pharisees?

What is it about the Pharisees and about Jesus that motivated Him to tell this parable?

How would you describe Lazarus? On the other hand, how would you describe the rich man?

Do you think someone who has nice clothes and has a good meal every day is rich? Why or why not?

How do you feel when you compare your lifestyle with the rich man?

What is suggested by the fact that Lazarus was left at the rich man's gate each day?

How might you be more mindful of people in need around you?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ LUKE 16:22-26 Again.

How hard may it have been for the rich man to beg for mercy and ask for help? Why did he do so?

What do you think Abraham's response to the rich man says about God's mercy and grace?

What is the basis of judgment for these two men? Why did Lazarus go to heaven and the rich man to hell?

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ Luke 16:27-31 Again.

Why do you think the rich man insists that Abraham send Lazarus to his brothers?

What does Abraham's answer tell us about God's perspective on this situation?

According to Abraham's word to the rich man in hell, how can people learn instructions and warnings about life, repentance, and restoration?

What does this tell us about the importance of God's Word in evangelism?

Why do you think some people postpone making a decision about having a relationship with God until it is too late?

What does your use of the resources God has given you communicate about your heart?

How might your relationship with your possessions and wealth need to change in light of Christ's kingdom?

SERVE

How does the reality of a future day of judgment motivate you to live in the present?

What would you say to someone who says it is rude to talk about hell?

What are some practical ways we as individuals and as a group might serve the needy around us? How might doing so provide us opportunities to share the gospel?

PRAYER

Thank God for revealing Himself to us and inviting us into an eternal relationship with Him through His Son. Ask God to give us a passion for His glory, so we might find joy in serving the needy and sharing the gospel with the lost people around us. Thank God for being a just God and for showing mercy to those who seek Him.