

Spending Time with Jesus in Luke 13

Don't forget to invite Jesus to speak to you as you read this week.

First read through: Read Chapter 13 all the way through, imagining you are there.

Second read through: Look for themes and underline them in the color on your key.

What do you notice?

1)

2)

3)

Third read through: Answer questions as you go.

Remember the illustration of the hike that suddenly became a rescue mission when the leader fell and broke his leg? From 9:51 on, Jesus is resolutely headed for Jerusalem to die. His is the ultimate rescue mission to liberate enslaved humanity from their bondage to sin, death, and all other powers and authorities. Everything about Jesus is focused on his goal. When he rises from the dead, he will be the Messiah for ALL people.

He's in charge, not his opponents. He is trying to wake Israel up to follow him as their Messiah. Many Jews are super nationalistic and super religious (following their own rules),

just itching to fight Rome. Rome has just about had enough. Jesus knows what will happen if they don't follow him, and it is breaking his heart.

Luke 13:1-9

Pilate was not a good ruler. Rome didn't really like him, and he was, well, cruel. Not long before this story, he had killed some people from Galilee who were on their way, with their animals they were going to offer to God in Jerusalem. He literally mixed their blood by having his soldiers kill both the Galileans and their animals in the same place.

Many people then and now...and as far back as Job's time (2000 BC-ish)...have thought that if things go well for you, you must be blessed by God. If things go badly for you, you must have made God angry. The whole point of Job is that **this ISN'T true**. Now Jesus is making the same point. Those Galileans didn't die because of their sin. They died because we live in a broken world where bad things happen to good people.

13:3 is the key. Jesus says, "But unless you _____, you too will all perish."

Repent means to turn around, to totally do a 180, and go the other way.

Jesus is telling Israel, they have to do a 180 and follow his way of dealing with Rome. Otherwise the sword of Rome will destroy them.

Siloam is in Jerusalem. It includes a famous pool (John 9) as well as this tower. It fell and the falling stones killed _____ people.

In 13:5, Jesus says, "But unless you _____, you too will _____."

What does it mean when Scripture says the same thing twice? _____

Jesus tells the parable of the fig tree to let the Jews know that they are running out of time. He's giving them another chance. Will they follow him?

Luke 13:10-17

Well...here's one leader's answer to that question. Instead of following, he gets into a power struggle against Jesus.

What do you notice about: (look at the verbs)

The woman _____ Jesus _____ the synagogue leader

For you quizzers, the number 18 is only used in Ch 13

When Jesus looks at the woman, what does he see? (v 16)

Luke 13:18-21

If someone asked you what “the kingdom of God” means, what would you say?

What do you think was Jesus’ point in saying the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed planted in a garden?

What do you think his point was in comparing the kingdom of God to yeast mixed into 60 pounds (what?!!) of flour?

Yep, 60 pounds isn’t a random detail. It’s another flashback to a famous Bible story. Hint, it has to do with Sarah... What story includes the laughable amount of 60 pounds of flour?

Why would Luke want this story in the background of our minds when we think about the kingdom of God?

Luke 13:22-30

V 22. Luke writes that Jesus was teaching as he made his way to _____. He’s not adding in fluff. Words are expensive. Why does he remind us?

Why do you think that many will try but not be able to enter through the narrow door? Jesus says to make every effort to enter through the narrow door. Wait...EVERY effort? What do you think that means?

Hmm... is there a story later in Luke where Jesus talks about going through something very narrow?

v 25: Suddenly we realize that Jesus is talking about the kingdom of heaven as a feast. There's urgency in this story. A time is coming when the door will be shut. Why do you think those on the outside didn't come in when the door was open?

Why do they want to come in now?

They hung out with the owner of the house, but that wasn't enough. What did the owner reply twice? _ _ _ _ _

Gnashing of teeth is an expression of rage (i.e. Acts 7:54). Esau was known as one who wept because "he could not change what he had done" (Heb 12:16-17). When will there be weeping and gnashing of teeth?

Who else will be at the feast (v. 29)? How do you think the Jews felt hearing Jesus say this?

Luke 13: 31-35

Who is determining when and how Jesus will die? What things in these verses lead you to that conclusion?

What has Jerusalem done when God warned them in the past? (v 34)

Jesus knows that the Jews won't listen to him. He knows and is heartbroken that Rome will destroy Jerusalem, burning it and knocking down the stone walls. In a fire, a hen will gather her chicks under her body to keep them safe. She'll die so that they will live.

But Jerusalem isn't willing.

He's still going to Jerusalem to give his life, though. Israel may reject her Messiah, but some will receive him. Will we be willing to make every effort to enter into his kingdom...allow him to actually be King of our lives...and to know Jesus...really know him?