

LIFE GROUP GUIDE: UNIT 7

February 2, 2025 - March 16, 2025

Luke 20:9-26 | February 2, 2025

Read verses 9-19

What does the parable of the wicked tenants teach about God's patience and judgment?

How do the tenants' actions reflect the way people reject God's authority today?

In what way does this parable connect to the reality of God sending his Son into the world?

In verse 17, Jesus quotes Psalm 118:22. What does it mean that He is the "cornerstone," and why is this significant?

Read verses 19-26

Why did the religious leaders try to trap Jesus with the question about paying taxes?

How does Jesus' response in verse 25 ("Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's") challenge us in our daily lives?

Read Romans 13:1-7

What does these passages teach us about our duties as not only citizens of heaven, but citizens of America?

What are some ways we might fail to "give to God what is God's"?

How can we apply this passage to our own submission to God's authority in our lives?

Key Takeaways:

- Rejecting God's Authority Has Consequences. The parable warns that rejecting God's messengers leads to judgment. We must recognize Christ as the cornerstone of our lives.
- Giving God What Is His. Our lives, devotion, and obedience belong to God. We should evaluate whether we are truly surrendering all areas of our life to Him.

Prayer Prompts:

 Thank the Lord for sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to be the savior of your soul. Pray that you would embrace Christ in all areas of your life. That he would truly be Lord over all. Over you finances, your vocation, your family, your leisure.

Luke 20:27-47 | February 9, 2025

Read Verses 27-33

Why do you think the Sadducees, who didn't believe in the resurrection, asked Jesus about marriage in the afterlife? What were they trying to accomplish?

Read Verse 34-40

How does Jesus' response clarify the nature of resurrection life? What does this teach us about eternity?

Jesus quotes Exodus 3:6 to prove the resurrection. When God states that "I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob," He is making the point that he currently is their God. That they are alive, with him. Why is this significant in proving that God is the God of the living?

The religious leaders stopped asking Jesus questions. What does this tell us about His authority and wisdom?

Read Verses 41-47

Jesus questions them about Psalm 110:1. What is the significance of Jesus being both David's son and Lord?

What are some characteristics of the scribes that Jesus warns against? How can we guard against pride and hypocrisy in our own lives?

How do these two sections of the passage (resurrection and Messiah's identity) connect? What do they teach us about Jesus' mission?

How can this passage shape the way we live with hope in the resurrection and assurance of the identity of Christ?

Key Takeaways:

- Jesus teaches that life after death is not a mere continuation of earthly life but something far greater.
- Jesus affirms that those who belong to God never truly die, as He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—who are alive in Him.
- The Messiah is not only the Son of David but also the Lord, showing His divine authority and eternal reign.

Prayer Prompt:

- Pray that your hope would be in Christ and spending eternity with him. Identify the areas of your life where you long for the reality of heaven. Pray for the pain you see in others around you, for the sin that you fall into, for the death that we see happen to those close to us.

Luke 21:1-19 | February 16, 2025

Read Verses 1-4

What stands out to you about the widow's offering? How does Jesus contrast her gift with that of the wealthy?

How does this encounter challenge our perspective on generosity and trust in God?

Read Verses 5-19

Why do you think Jesus warns about the destruction of the temple? What does this tell us about God's judgment on Israel?

Jesus describes signs of the end times. How should Christians respond to fear when they hear about wars, disasters, and trials?

Jesus says His followers will face persecution. How does He encourage them to stay faithful?

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

What does this passage teach us about enduring persecution?

Have you ever faced opposition for your faith? How did you (or how would you) rely on God's strength in that situation?

What does Jesus mean when He says, "Not a hair of your head will perish" (v. 18), even though He just warned of persecution?

How can we apply this passage to our daily lives as we seek to live boldly for Christ?

Key Takeaways:

- The widow's offering teaches us that God values the heart behind our giving, not the amount.
- Buildings, wealth, and even worldly peace are temporary; our hope must be in Christ.
- Jesus warns of difficulties, but He also promises to strengthen and sustain His followers. No matter what hardships we face, God is faithful, and those who stand firm will receive eternal life.

Prayer Prompt:

- Pray for bold faith. Pray for those who are suffering horrible persecution for proclaiming Christ among the nations. Pray for our missionaries at BRCC and for all the opposition that comes their way. Thank the Lord that we are blessed to be in a country that is less hostile toward our faith. Ask the Lord for more faith in the event that persecution were to come our way.

Luke 21:20-38 | February 23, 2025

Read verses 20-28

What does Jesus warn about in verses 20-24, and how does this prophecy connect to historical events? In verses 25-28, what signs does Jesus describe as signaling His return?

How does Jesus' message in this passage encourage believers to stay prepared?

Read verses 29-33

What does this passage teach us about the certainty of Jesus' words?

In verse 34, Jesus warns against being weighed down by the anxieties of life. What are some ways we can avoid spiritual complacency?

Why does Jesus emphasize watchfulness and prayer in verses 36-38?

How does this passage challenge or encourage you personally in your walk with Christ?

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

What does this passage teach us about remaining spiritually awake and alert?

In what practical ways can we stay alert and faithful while waiting for Christ's return?

Key Takeaways:

- Jesus' return is certain. His words will never pass away, and His promises will be fulfilled.
- Be spiritually watchful. We must not be distracted by the cares of this world but remain focused on Christ.
- Prayer is essential. Jesus calls us to pray for strength and endurance in times of trial. Even in troubling times, we can stand firm in faith, knowing our redemption is near.

Prayer Prompt:

- Pray for the Lord's return and that you would be ready when it happens. Ask God to keep your eyes open and work in you so that you are aware of what he is up to in your life. Cast all the worries and concerns of your life upon Him trusting that He alone can give you peace and hope in this life.

Luke 22:1-23 | March 2, 2025

Read verses 1-6

Why were the chief priests and scribes looking for a way to kill Jesus in secret? Why did they fear the people?

Often times, it is through those within "the group" that can cause the most division within the body of Christ. Is it surprising that Satan would use someone close to Jesus to betray him?

Read verses 7-23

Why was it important for Jesus and His disciples to celebrate the Passover together?

How does Jesus transform the meaning of the Passover meal into the Lord's Supper?

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

What does this passage tell us about our approach to the Lord's Table? Why is it important to examine ourselves before partaking in communion?

What does Jesus mean when He says, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood"?

How do you think the disciples reacted when Jesus revealed that one of them would betray Him?

What can we learn from Jesus' attitude and actions as He prepares for His suffering?

How does regularly remembering Jesus' sacrifice through communion shape our faith and daily life?

What are specific things that you can do to prepare your heart before the next time you take communion in Church?

Key Takeaways:

- God is Sovereign. Even in betrayal and suffering, God's plan of salvation unfolds exactly as He intended.
- Judas' betrayal warns us to guard our hearts against temptation and deception.
- Just as the Passover lamb's blood protected Israel, Jesus' sacrifice covers our sins.

Prayer Prompt:

- Pray against division within the Body of Christ. Pray specifically for the leadership within BRCC and for the pastors and elders. Ask the Lord to give you a renewed understanding of the reality of Christ's death on the cross. Thank God for giving us His Son to pay the penalty for our sins.

Luke 22:24-38 | March 9, 2025

Read verses 24-30

The disciples argue about who is the greatest. Why do you think they were so concerned with status, and how does Jesus correct their thinking?

What does Jesus mean when He says, "I am among you as the one who serves"?

What does it mean to be a "servant-leader" in the context of this passage?

Read John 13:3-17

What does this passage teach us about how we are to serve on another?

Read verses 31-38

Jesus prays that Peter's faith will not fail. What does this teach us about Jesus' intercession for believers?

Why do you think Peter was so confident that he would never deny Jesus? How can we guard ourselves against boasting in ourselves?

In verses 35-38, Jesus tells his disciples to sell their cloaks and buy a sword. What does Jesus mean by this? What does this tell us about the future of their Gospel advancement and the hostility that they will face?

What practical ways can we follow Jesus' example of servant-leadership in our daily lives?

Key Takeaways:

- Jesus calls for bold leadership for those who follow him. This leadership often takes the place of servanthood, as we replicate Christ's gentleness and lowliness.
- Christ intercedes on our behalf and prays that our faith may not fail in the midst of Satan's attacks on our lives.
- We must rely on God's protection and providence as we go forth and proclaim the good news of the Gospel.

Prayer Prompt:

 As the Lord for a heart of servant-leadership. Seek wisdom from the Lord on what that practically looks like in your life. Thank Him for interceding on your behalf as you face attacks from the enemy. Pray for perseverance in your faith so that you would not deny Christ in any domain of your life, but rather live for His glory.

Luke 22:39-46 | March 16, 2025

Read verses 39-46

We read that it was Jesus' custom to go to the Mount of Olives to pray. What does this tell us about the necessity of prayer in our lives?

Jesus prays for the Father's will to be done. What does this show us about the anguish that Jesus feels and his human nature?

What does the angel strengthening Jesus tell us about God's provision in the struggles of his people?

Why do you think the disciples kept falling asleep? How does this reflect our limitedness?

Read Psalm 42:5-11

How does this passage portray the downcast soul and how to pray in our suffering?

After all the expression of anguish in the Psalm, it ends with worship and faith in the Lord. What does this teach us about how we ought to bring our pain to the Lord?

Jesus says to his disciples twice for them to pray so that they would not enter temptation. Why would prayer help us not enter temptation?

What temptations or struggles in your life require the kind of surrender that Jesus modeled? How can we grow in the discipline of prayer, especially in times of difficulty?

Key Takeaways:

- Even in deep agony, Jesus submitted to the Father, teaching us to trust God's plan over our desires.
- This time of prayer shows us not only Jesus' obedience to His Father, but also gives us a real picture at his humanity.
- Just as Jesus warned His disciples to stay awake and pray, we must be diligent in our faith and seek God's strength to resist temptation.

Prayer Prompt:

Bring to the Lord all the areas where you face temptation. Ask him to protect your heart and mind. To
give you pure thoughts and replace your temptations with desires of more of Christ. Thank the Lord for
sending His Son as a man that can sympathize with us, and give us a perfect example of how to live a
godly life.