

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, May 18, 2008

Passage: Luke 8:1-21

Memory Passage: Romans 10:17

**TODAY:** *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:1-3.** What do we learn again about the priority of Jesus' ministry (Luke 4:43)?
- (b) How is the gospel described in Luke 8:2? Compare this to Luke 2:10 and Acts 13:32.
- (c) What is this gospel (Isaiah 40:9; Isaiah 52:7; Romans 10:13-15)?
- (d) Who, besides the twelve, were accompanying Jesus? What had Jesus done for some of them? What did some of them do for Jesus and his ministry?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:1-3 and Romans 10:13-15. Talk together about missionaries and those who have committed their lives to the sharing of the good news. How can we support them? How was Jesus supported by these women? Take some time to pray for one of our missionaries and to discuss other ways you can support their ministries.

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:4-10.** What does the seed represent (Luke 8:11)? What is this parable in Luke mainly about (Luke 8:18)?
- (b) What are the four types of soils? How does each one *respond* to the word? How does faith come (Romans 10:17)?
- (c) Does Jesus tell us to try to figure out what kind of soil people are? What does the sower do that is ridiculous? What does this tell us about sharing the Word of God with others (Mark 16:15)?
- (d) What does Jesus tell them about the responses of many (Luke 10:21-24)? Why (1 Corinthians 2:14)? How long should we keep sharing with those who will not respond (Isaiah 6:8-13)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:4-10 and Isaiah 6:1-13. Discuss each of the soils and how they respond to the Word of God. Who should we share the gospel with? What is the picture of the sower sowing his seed? Will everyone respond? Pray for someone who has heard the gospel but has never responded. Pray that his heart might be open to the gospel.

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:11-13.** What does verse 12 tell us about Satan's opposition to the gospel? What are some ways that this happens? What should we be continually doing since Satan is doing this?
- (b) How is the second soil described? What kind of "hearer" of the Word would this describe? Is this one saved?
- (c) What might indicate that they are not true believers? What is an evidence of a true believer (Luke 22:31-32; 1 Jn 2:19)?
- (d) Read Matthew 13:21. What is the cause of his falling away? What do persecution and trials show us about the reality of our faith in Christ (John 6:66-68)? What did Jesus remind his disciples about these persecutions (Luke 6:22-23)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:11-13 and Luke 6:22-23. Talk together about what it means to be a true follower of Jesus? How is an *emotional response* not the same as salvation? What is one reason that we need to keep on sharing the gospel? Pray that you might be faithful in telling others about Jesus so they can hear and be saved.

### DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Luke 8:14-15.** How is the third soil described? What happens to the fruit? What happens to the plant? Could this describe a believer?
- (b) What are the three things Jesus mentions that choke out the fruit? Do any of these things keep believers from being fruitful? Do any of them hinder you spiritually?
- (c) How are riches described in Matthew 13:22? What warnings does Paul give about riches (1 Timothy 6:6-10)? What are some ways we can protect ourselves from the deceitfulness of riches (1 Timothy 6:17-19)?
- (d) What three things does Jesus say about the good soil? What does it mean to "keep it"? Compare this with Matthew 13:23. What is the importance of hearing it "with patience?"
- (e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:14-15 and 1 Timothy 6:6-10. Talk together about the things that keep us from bearing fruit for Christ? Discuss some ways you can be more fruitful for Christ. Pray that God would use you for His kingdom.

**DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT****READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Luke 8:16-21.** What is the picture of the light on the lampstand? What was Jesus telling his disciples about hearing the Word and sharing it?

(b) What does verse 17 tell us about God's judgment of everything in our lives (1 Corinthians 4:5; Ecclesiastes 12:14)? How should this motivate us to hear and share the Word?

(c) What principle does Jesus refer to in verse 18? How does knowing more of the Word help you to know more of the Word?

(d) What happens in Luke 8:19-21? What did Jesus say was one mark of his children (family)? Is just hearing the Word enough (James 1:22-25)?

(e) *Family:* Read Luke 8:16-21 and James 1:22-25. How important is the Word of God in a believer's life? Why should we be reading it every day? What happens to us when we share the Word with others? Pray for those who teach the Word of God in your church.

**DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT****READ THE PASSAGE**

*Think back through what you have learned each day this week.* Read Luke 8:1-21. Discuss how people's lives are changed by hearing God's Word. Who should we be sharing with? How is simply sharing God's Word effective at bringing people to faith in Christ? Pray for the preaching and teaching of God's Word tomorrow. Pray too that *you* would be changed by God's Word.

**DATE:** May 18, 2008

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***Hearing the Lord***

*"Therefore, take care how you hear."*