

Grow in confidence – with Luke’s Gospel

LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

7th Meeting **THEME: How to live a life worth living**

Prepare yourself. Pray for your Life Group’s meeting. At home read Luke 6:20-26

20.00 – 20.10 Icebreaker to begin with: Sometimes we say to ourselves ‘well done’, or ‘go on’, or ‘don’t give up now’. We talk to ourselves and sometimes we remind ourselves of what somebody who is important for us would think of us. We need this, otherwise we would give up and not do what we should have done or wanted to do. Do you recognise this?

20.10 – 20.15 Pray Ask God for His Holy Spirit. That you may hear in today’s Bible passage the Lord’s voice!

20.15 – 20.40 Bible passage **Read: Luke 6:20-26 Beatitudes and woes**

Look again at verse 20a **Context of these beatitudes and woes**

- To conclude from the passage that Jesus in general favours the poor and dislikes the rich is a mistake. Why?
- Jesus tells his disciples what he sees. His prophetic eyes see sharp, because he has listened carefully to the word of his Father. He sees what we tend not to see. With which aim would Jesus have told these blessings and woes to his disciples?

Look again at verses 20b-23 **Beatitudes**

- Those who had begun to follow Jesus sometimes lost income, lacked food, joy they could otherwise have had. And they would be rejected on behalf of Jesus. Because of this they would sometimes hear the inward voice: am I not a fool? How do Jesus’ words help them?

Look again at verses 24-26 **Woes**

- Some would (and will) rather keep their income and riches than to become poorer because of following Jesus. What is the reason that Jesus then says: woe to you? (Look at the text!! You can also look at Luke 16:25)
- Is it better not to laugh, never to enjoy a good meal or to hear people speak well of you?

20.40 – 20.50 Digging deeper: how to live a life worth living

When we want to follow Jesus, many times we may hear that whispering voice: you are a fool if you do this or that. (Did you recognise that voice?). For instance: when we choose to make steps out of our comfort zone, so that we lose some income, so that we miss a meal with our family, so that we get in situations of weeping and sadness, or so that people criticise us. But Jesus encourages us! Hear His blessings and His woes. Hear His voice. Repeat it to yourself. So that you will really live a life worth living – in God’s eyes.

Take three or four minutes of silence. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you: is there anything where the Lord is encouraging you to take next steps? Where He tells you: go on and do it, don’t think you are a fool if you do that? Share!

20.50 – 21.00 End Share and end with prayer for each other.

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MATERIAL for your DISCIPLESHIP TRIPLET

THEME: How to live a life worth living

Prepare yourself. Pray for your Life Group’s meeting. At home read Luke 6:20-26

20.00 – 20.10 **Grab your coffee and chat on this:**

Sometimes we say to ourselves ‘well done’, or ‘go on’, or ‘don’t give up now’. We talk to ourselves and sometimes we remind ourselves of what somebody who is important for us would think of us. We need this, otherwise we would give up and not do what we should have done or wanted to do. Do you recognise this?

20.10 – 20.15 **Pray** Ask the Lord to speak through His Word. Ask Him to help you help each other to hear His voice.

20.15 – 20.25 **Bible passage** **Read: Luke 6:20-26 Beatitudes and woes**

In this passage Jesus makes us hear His ‘well done’, ‘go on’, ‘don’t give up now’ in certain circumstances. Blessed means: you are the lucky one, it will turn out that you made the right choice. And woe means: o no, what did you do... it looked attractive, but looking deeper it was so foolish. Hearing His voice helps us deal with that other voice that sometimes hinders us when we want to follow Jesus and make steps. That voice whispers: aren’t you a fool if you do that? Share your observations: what struck you, what speaks to you or amazes you in this passage?

20.25 – 20.55 **TIME for sharing and prayer**

The Lord speaks today! He wants you to stand in trusting Him, following Him and obeying Him. You must not look for blessing besides Him, nor fear woes when you obey Him. Take 3 minutes of silence now. Repeat for yourself this word: Blessed! And: Woe! And try to discern: is there something going on in your life where the Lord speaks this Blessed! and Woe! to you?

Let each one of you share ca. 5 minutes. Ask questions. Encourage. Then take some minutes of prayer for this brother or sister. And move on to the next person. Until each one has been able to share.

20.55 – 21.00 **End** with a moment of thanksgiving together.