

Jesus Magnified

Luke 16 and 17

Lesson 14

FIRST DAY: Read Luke 16 and 17

Jesus' communication transcends all time and culture. The eternal Jesus speaks to men right where they are. His Word is comprehensive, universal, eternal, and essential for everyone, everywhere, at anytime! His Word is as applicable, necessary, and imperative today as it was when He first spoke it two thousand years ago.

In Luke 16 and 17, Jesus employed examples and illustrations that His audience was well acquainted with. In these chapters Jesus used rich men, servants, millstones, sheep, and lepers to help His hearers grasp the meaning of what He said. He wanted them to understand such spiritual priorities as fidelity, faith, offenses, forgiveness, thanksgiving, and the end times.

Jesus' Word still continues to speak to all men everywhere right where they are living.

*Ask God to cause His Word to minister to you
right where you are today.*

SECOND DAY: Read Luke 16:1-18

1. In Luke 16:1-8 Jesus spoke another parable to His disciples about a steward, or property manager. From this parable summarize:
 - a. The *accusation* against the steward and the consequences (verses 1-2)
 - b. The steward's reasoning (verses 3-4)
 - c. The steward's plan and actions (verses 5-7)
 - d. The master's reaction (verse 8a)

2. Although this *steward* was dishonest, Jesus used him to illustrate a point. In Luke 16:8 Jesus contrasted the *sons of this world* with *the sons of light*. The priority of *the sons of this world* is self-preservation and self-enrichment. By contrast, what is the priority of *the sons of light*? See Matthew 6:19-21.

a. From Luke 16:9 cite the lesson Jesus was communicating about *unrighteous mammon* (money).

3. In Luke 16:10-13 Jesus continued to address our relationship to earthly resources. Use these verses to comment on what Jesus said concerning:

a. Faithfulness in stewardship (verses 10-12)

b. Faithfulness to God (verse 13)

(1) Why are these issues critical for believers? See also 1 Corinthians 4:2.

4. From Luke 16:14 remark on:

a. The Pharisees' attitude

b. The Pharisees' actions

5. According to Luke 16:15, what was at the root of their problem?

a. List a few of the things *highly esteemed* by our present culture that are an *abomination* to God.

6. Although the Pharisees themselves were hypocrites, the *law* of God remained true. Luke 16:16–17 (NLT) says, *Until John the Baptist, the law of Moses and the messages of the prophets were your guides. But now the Good News of the Kingdom of God is preached, and everyone is eager to get in. But that doesn't mean that the law has lost its force. It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the smallest point of God's law to be overturned.* What was Jesus affirming about the *law*? See Matthew 5:17–19.

a. The Pharisees had diminished the law by granting divorce for any reason. How do you see Jesus reaffirming the intent of *God's law*? See also Matthew 19:3–9.

7. What is your takeaway from your study today?

THIRD DAY: Read Luke 16:19–31

1. Jesus then spoke about a *rich man* and a *beggar named Lazarus*. Use Luke 16:19–26 to contrast these two men:

a. Their lives (verses 19–21)

b. Their deaths (verses 22–23)

c. Their eternal state (verses 23–26)

2. From Luke 16:27–31 summarize the interaction between Abraham and the *rich man*.
 - a. List any lessons you receive from these verses.

3. Share a way you are preparing today for your eternal destiny.

FOURTH DAY: Read Luke 17:1–10

1. From Luke 17:1 comment on the reality of *offenses*.

2. According to Jesus, what *would be better* than to tempt or cause someone to sin? Luke 17:2
 - a. How does this underscore the seriousness of this issue?

3. Use Luke 17:3-4 to note and comment on how you are to deal with someone who:

a. *Sins against you*

b. *Repents*

(1) Connect this with Matthew 18:15, 21-22 and share your thoughts.

4. Why do you think this caused the *apostles* to request, *Increase our faith?*
Luke 17:5

a. In response, what did Jesus say concerning *faith*? Luke 17:6

5. From Luke 17:7-10 summarize Jesus' illustration concerning the *duty* of a *servant*.

a. How does an obedient *servant* demonstrate the fruit of faith?

4. From Luke 17:17-19 comment on:

a. Jesus' questions

b. Jesus' response to the healed man

5. What is the greatest lesson you received from your study today?

SIXTH DAY: Read Luke 17:20-37

1. When the Pharisees asked Jesus *when the kingdom of God would come*, what was His answer? Luke 17:20-21a

2. The Pharisees were demanding a sign. They wanted Jesus to fulfill their agenda (Matthew 16:4). Instead in Luke 17:21b (NLT), Jesus said, *The kingdom of God is already among you*, referring to His presence. What do you find significant about this answer?

3. Jesus then spoke *to His disciples* about *the days of the Son of Man*, or His Second Coming. Use Luke 17:22-36 to describe and comment on:

a. Their *desire* and deception (verses 22-23)

b. The characteristics of His Second Coming (verse 24)

c. What must happen before His Second Coming (verse 25)

d. The circumstances surrounding His Second Coming (verses 26–30)

e. Response to *that day* (verses 31–32)

f. Phenomena *in that night* (verses 34–36)

4. Print the essential lesson of Luke 17:33.

a. Link this with Matthew 16:25–26. Considering the context, why was this statement significant?

