



SERMON NOTES

DEAR THEO

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE // PART 15 (Ch. 17)

Armando Lopez, Assoc. Pastor | Damascus Road Community Church Mar. 21-22, 2020

SERMON NOTES:

The Christian life is a life lived from the foundation of what Jesus has done for us. Everything we do as Christians emerges from that point.

Faith is based on what we believe, and what we believe guides how we live.

Today, we'll answer the question of *"How does faith grow?"*
We'll come to see that faith *grows by doing*.

Jesus said to His disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe to anyone through whom they come.

It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble.

So watch yourselves. ~ Luke 17:1-3 (NIV)

A Faith That Removes Stumbling Blocks

It's not what you do that transforms you. What you do reveals what you believe. It reveals what or who you have placed your faith in. It reveals what or who you trust.

What transforms us is an encounter with Jesus. It is His love for you that leads you to live differently. That changes what you believe and therefore, what you do. It is His love for you that leads you to put your faith in Him, to put your trust in Him.

Our doing is a reflection of our believing.

Jesus lays this claim upon us Christians, "If you're to follow Me, then you're to be like Me. You are to put your Father's interests, God's interests, above your own."

We have to ask ourselves, individually: *Have I become a stumbling block for those who are coming to know Jesus?*

A Faith That Forgives

“If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’ you must forgive them.”

~ Luke 17:3-4

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

~ Luke 17:5

Forgiveness is a move of faith.

Faith moves us to forgive because we have experienced the forgiveness of God ourselves. And as we forgive, our love grows. As we forgive, our ability to forgive grows. And as we forgive, our understanding of God’s forgiveness grows (see Matthew 18).

He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

~ Luke 17:6

Jesus’ point is that a small amount of faith can do great things. That it doesn’t take a huge amount of faith to do something, but it does take acting that faith out.

God is calling us to have an active faith. A faith expressed, specifically, through acts of service.

A Faith That Does

So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’

~ Luke 17:10

By washing the disciples’ feet, He showed them that the master served. And if the master served, what do you think His disciples should do?

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.” ~ John 13:34-35

So what is our duty?

Our duty is *to love one another as Jesus loved us*.

And it is through serving that we show our love to one another.

So how does faith grow?

Faith grows by doing.

But we don’t do anything to get love or approval from God. We do it because we have been loved.

The duty of faith is to do what love requires of us to do.

Notes:

Post your step of action on DRCC Social Media.

Facebook:

/DamascusRoadCommunityChurch

Twitter & Instagram:

/drcc_church

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE PAGE

Each small group is different.
Feel free to adjust and use what best fits your group.

WARM UP:

- What is one thing you love to do?
- What is one thing you find hard to do, but you still have to do?

ENGAGE:

- What was most impactful to you from this weekend's service?
- Read through Luke 17:1-10.

APPLY:

- How can we make sure that we have not become stumbling blocks to those coming to know Jesus?
- How is forgiveness a move of faith?
(Check out Matthew 18:21-35)
- How are you dealing with the tension of faith and fear during this season of time?
- Read John 13:34-35. Discuss what love requires each of us to do in this season.

PRAY:

- Spend some time individually before the Lord, asking God to continue to give you a heart after His own heart and to fill your heart with his peace during this season (Philippians 4:6-7).

GOING DEEPER:

- Suggested resource – *Luke for Everyone* by N.T. Wright
- If you are not in a Small Group, there's at least one that needs you!
Get started at damascus.com/groups

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