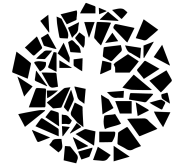


INTRODUCING JESUS

LUKE 8:16-21

Community Group Study Guide
Week of February 17, 2019



MOSAIC BOSTON
LOVE. JESUS. SIMPLE.

This week we looked at Luke 8:16-21 where Jesus continues teaching the crowds. Following the parable of the sower, Jesus continues describing what it looks like for a person to be “good soil” where the Gospel can grow and bear fruit. A true follower of Jesus is someone who receives the light of God’s Word with “an honest and good heart”, comes into that light to expose their sin and deal with it, which allows that light to shine through them by living holy lives and sharing the truth of God’s word with others.

Throughout this passage, we see Jesus warning the crowds that it is possible to listen Jesus without actually hearing what he’s saying. To hear his words without listening and obeying his words. This distinction is what separates Jesus’ true followers who have been born again by the Spirit, from those who are merely fans, frauds, or fair-weather followers. When Jesus saves a person, their life is transformed, and reality of their salvation is made evident by the fruitfulness and faithfulness of their lives.

Another thing Jesus wants us to understand is that there will come a day when each of us must give an account for what we’ve done with the light we’ve been given. Our words, our deeds, and even the deepest secrets of our hearts will one day be exposed. Therefore, we must be careful to examine ourselves, to make sure we listen carefully to Jesus. It’s not enough to know the truth about God. The demons know God and they tremble. They do so, however, with a stubborn prideful lack of repentance. To truly hear God’s word, one must actualize God’s word. We listen, we love, we obey, and we share His Word with others so that they can do the same.

The greatest example of this is Jesus Christ. Jesus not only listened perfectly to His Father’s word and obeyed, but was Himself was the Word of God in Flesh. He was the “Light of the world.” The light who went through the darkness of crucifixion and Hell, and overcame it, so that the light of Gospel could be planted in us. He now calls us “light of the world” and puts us on display as witnesses to His light, so that through us, many would come to hear and obey the Word of God.

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

To understand the connection between hearing and obeying.

Heart

To allow the reality of the Final judgement to sober us and motivate us to walk in the light and share the light of God’s word with others.

Hands

To examine our hearts and “take care how we hear.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership or Baptism:

Contact admin@mosaicboston.com to sign up for our next membership class or learn more about baptism.

Mosaic JP:

Please keep Mosaic JP and other faithful Boston church plants in your prayers. If your CG would like to serve Mosaic JP together on a Sunday please contact andy@mosaicboston.com.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

ICE BREAKER

What is the longest amount of time you have gone without power?

Read Luke 8:16-21

- What initially stood out to you as we read this passage?
- How often do you think about Judgment Day? Why should we think about it often, and how should it move us or motivate us when we do?
- What distinctions does Jesus draw between true followers and false followers in this passage? What action does he want us to take?
- Why do you think Jesus often questions peoples' motives when preaching to large crowds?
- Scripture clearly teaches that we are saved by faith and not by works, so why does Jesus put such a huge emphasis here on "doing" what God's Word tells us?

Read Mark 4:21-25, Matthew 5:13-16

- Jesus connects hearing God's word with doing God's word, but He also connects doing God's word with sharing or proclaiming God's word to others. How can what we've read so far in Luke 8 encourage us when we are afraid to share God's word, or tempted to keep it to ourselves?

Read Matthew 10:26-33 & Luke 12:1-9

- Jesus says we should fear God, but also be aware that He loves and values us. Why do we need an awareness of both God's love, and God's judgment to overcome hypocrisy and our fear of sharing the Gospel?
- How do we see these both perfectly embodied in Jesus (God's love and God's judgment)? How does this give us the perspective we need to understand Christ's warning to those who deny Him or are ashamed of Him before men? Why is hiding or denying our faith in Jesus worthy of such a strong warning from Jesus?