

Sermon Title: Jesus on our terms

Scripture Reading: Luke 7:24-35

When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." ²⁹ (When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, ³⁰ but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.)

³¹ "To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? ³² They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep."

³³ For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' ³⁴ The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' ³⁵ Yet wisdom is justified by all her children."

Luke 7:24-35

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Forcing God to relate to us on our terms instead of relating to God on His, is rejecting the purposes of God for our lives.

Jesus confronts us to call us back to the purposes of God for our lives.

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Jesus on my terms is *me in control & me on the throne.*

We force Jesus to relate to us on our terms by “*creating relational boundaries.*”

And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.”²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “**You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.**”²² **Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.**

Mark 10:20-22

Free yourself from *domesticated Jesus.*

We force Jesus to relate to us on our terms by “*creating relational contracts.*”

To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.”⁶⁰ And Jesus said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

Luke 10:59-60

Rip up *the contracts* you’ve made.

We force Jesus to relate to us on our terms by “*reversing the relational roles & responsibilities.*”

You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰ For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)— ¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³ thus **making void the word of God** by your tradition that you have handed down. **And many such things you do.**”

Mark 7:8-13

Step off *the throne of your life.*

³⁴ The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’

“If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and, though they discipline him, will not listen to them, ¹⁹ then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gate of the place

where he lives, ²⁰ and they shall say to the elders of his city, ‘**This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.**’ ²¹ Then all the men of the city shall stone him to death with stones. So you shall purge the evil from your midst, and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

Deuteronomy 21:1-21

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Luke 19:9-10

Jesus wants a personal relationship with you.

The Son of Man has come eating and drinking—a friend of tax collectors and sinners

Reflect on The Gospel.

Repent & Believe.