

Lesson 13

CHAPTER 13, KNOWING JESUS

Jesus is continuing to display urgency about the need to make a choice for the kingdom of God. That choice involves knowing Jesus and being in relationship with him. It also involves repenting. Only through repentance do we realize the need we all have for a savior. In chapter 13, Jesus is urgently trying to draw the Israelites to the knowledge that he is the Messiah. Soon it will be too late.

1. Read Luke 13:1-9. What is the message from Jesus? What does he say will happen to those who do not repent? If God is the owner of the vineyard, the vineyard is Israel, and Jesus is the vineyard worker, what does the story of the fig tree say to you?

2. Read verses 10-17. What point do you think Jesus is making about the crippled woman? If the crippled woman symbolizes Israel, what is the message?

3. In verses 18-21, Jesus describes what the kingdom of God is like. There are two ways to look at these analogies. If the yeast and the birds represent evil what does that suggest about the kingdom of God? If they represent faith in Jesus, what does that tell you?

4. Read verses 22-30. What do you think “knowing” Jesus means? Compare this to Ephesians 5:22-32.

5. Read the rest of Luke 13. Who is in control according to verses 32-33?

6. Jesus wants desperately for his fellow Israelites to come to faith in him. What do these final verses tell us?

APPLICATION: Where are you in your relationship with Jesus? Do you know him? Read through the Ephesian verses in question 4 again. Pray over them. Write what the Holy Spirit reveals to you.

PRAYER: Merciful Father, you desire for all of us to come to repentance. It is only through repentance that we come face to face with our need for a savior. Take away any self-reliance that may be lurking in our souls. We praise you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross so that we might be set free from our sinfulness and walk in freedom. Thank you, Father, for we worship and adore you. Amen.