

Outline for chapters 17 and 18

I. Luke Chapter 17

A. Healing of the Ten Lepers (17:11-19)

1. Jesus encounters ten lepers who cry out for mercy and healing.
2. Jesus instructs them to go and show themselves to the priests.
3. As they go, they are cleansed, but only one of them returns to thank Jesus.

1. Pharisees question Jesus about the coming of the kingdom of God.

2. Jesus explains that the kingdom of God is not a visible, earthly kingdom but is within and among believers.

3. Jesus warns about false messiahs and the need to be prepared for his second coming.

4. Jesus uses examples of Noah and Lot to emphasize the suddenness and unexpectedness of his return.

II. Luke Chapter 18

A. The Parable of the Persistent Widow (18:1-8)

1. Jesus tells a parable about a persistent widow seeking justice from an unjust judge.
2. The widow's persistence eventually leads the judge to grant her request.
3. Jesus encourages his disciples to always pray and not lose heart.

B. The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (18:9-14)

1. Jesus tells a parable contrasting the prayers of a self-righteous Pharisee and a humble tax collector.
2. The tax collector's humble prayer is accepted by God, while the Pharisee's self-righteousness is condemned.
3. Jesus emphasizes the importance of humility and genuine repentance in prayer.

C. Jesus Blesses the Children (18:15-17)

1. People bring children to Jesus for him to bless them.
2. The disciples try to prevent it, but Jesus welcomes the children and teaches about the kingdom of God.

D. The Rich Ruler (18:18-30)

1. A rich ruler asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life.

2. Jesus tells him to sell all his possessions and give to the poor, but the ruler is unwilling to do so.

3. Jesus teaches that it is difficult for the rich to enter the kingdom of God.

E. Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection (18:31-34)

1. Jesus foretells his upcoming suffering, death, and resurrection.

2. The disciples do not fully understand what he is saying.

Questions for class

1. In Luke chapter 17, what was the significance of Jesus healing the ten lepers? Why is this story important?

2. How does Jesus describe the coming of the Kingdom of God in Luke chapter 17? What does this reveal about the nature of the Kingdom?

3. What is the main message or lesson we can learn from the Parable of the Persistent Widow in Luke chapter 18?

4. Compare and contrast the attitudes and prayers of the Pharisee and the tax collector in the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector in Luke chapter 18. What can we learn from their example?

5. What is the significance of Jesus blessing the children in Luke chapter 18? What does this teach us about the value of children in God's kingdom?

6. In the encounter with the rich ruler in Luke chapter 18, why did Jesus tell him to sell everything he had and give it to the poor? What is the lesson behind this interaction?

7. How does Jesus predict his death and resurrection in Luke chapter 18? What does this reveal about his mission and purpose?