

## Deep Practice Discipleship Guide

### *Luke 19:41–44 — Compassion That Sees, Grieves, and Keeps Going*

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#### 1. Opening Reflection: Looking Back on Last Week

Begin by inviting the group to reflect on their previous deep practice commitment.

##### **Prompt the group:**

- What did you commit to practice this past week?
- Where did you see fruit or movement, even if small?
- Where was it difficult or where did you struggle to follow through?
- What did you notice about your heart, your habits, or your awareness of God?

Encourage honesty and curiosity rather than evaluation. This is about **formation, not performance**.

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#### 2. Sermon Overview: Walking Through the Text

##### **Context: A Triumphant Entry with a Hidden Tension**

- Palm Sunday: Jesus enters Jerusalem in a moment of celebration.
  - The city is at the height of its religious and cultural significance.
  - Yet beneath the surface, something is deeply wrong.
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##### **Jesus Weeps (v.41)**

- Jesus does not simply observe—He **weeps openly**.
  - This is deep, emotional grief (wailing, sobbing).
  - His compassion is not distant—it is **felt**.
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##### **Jesus Sees What They Are Missing (v.42)**

The people had settled for lesser things:

- **Show over substance**
- **Moral compromise over holiness**
- **Religious activity over the presence of God**

The tragedy: *God Himself was standing before them—and they could not see Him.*

This is not just their story—it is an ongoing human pattern.

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### **Jesus Sees What Is Coming (vv.43–44a)**

- Jerusalem is heading toward destruction.
  - They are **blinded**, unable to see the consequences.
  - Echo of Isaiah 48:18 — peace was available, but ignored.
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### **Jesus Grieves Their Failure to Recognize God (v.44b)**

- Connection to Ezekiel 10–11: God’s glory had departed the temple.
- Now, Jesus—the very presence of God—returns.
- But:
  - He is not recognized
  - He is not received
  - He is rejected

They are **repeating the same spiritual pattern.**

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### **The Hope: Compassion That Keeps Going**

- Jesus does not turn away.
  - He continues forward—to the cross.
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### **Heart Response**

- Jesus loved you enough **not to stop.**

- The question becomes:
    - 👉 *Will you recognize His presence?*
    - 👉 *Will you respond in faith?*
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### 3. Discussion Questions (Bloom's Taxonomy)

#### Remember

- What actions and emotions does Jesus display in this passage?
- What were the people of Jerusalem failing to recognize?

#### Understand

- What does it mean that they chose “show over substance”?
- Why is failing to recognize God's presence such a serious issue?

#### Apply

- Where might we be tempted to settle for religious activity instead of relationship?
- What are some ways we might miss God's presence in our everyday lives?

#### Analyze

- Why do you think people—even sincere religious people—can miss what God is doing?
- What patterns do you see between Jerusalem in this passage and people today?

#### Evaluate

- How would you assess your current attentiveness to God's presence?
- What competes most with your ability to recognize and respond to Him?

#### Create

- What would it look like this week to actively recognize and respond to Jesus in your daily life?
  - What is one intentional shift you could make to move from “settling” to “seeking”?
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### 4. Storying Exercise

**Story: The Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13–35)**

**Step 1: Read the story aloud together.**

**Step 2: Retell the story from memory as a group.**

- Encourage participation—each person adds a detail.

**Step 3: Reflect on the story**

**Discussion Questions:**

- What stands out to you about how the disciples experienced Jesus?
- At what point do they recognize Him? What changed?
- How is this story similar to what happens in Luke 19?
- Why do you think people can be near Jesus and still not recognize Him?
- What helped the disciples finally “see”?

**Connection:**

Just like Jerusalem—and just like us—it is possible to be **close to Jesus but not aware of His presence.**

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**5. Deep Practice Commitment (This Week)**

Take a few quiet moments.

**Write down one specific practice for the coming week:**

You may continue what you’ve been working on, or choose something new based on today’s passage.

**Possible Practices:**

- **Daily Awareness Pause:** Pause 2–3 times a day and ask, “*Where is God present right now?*”
- **Scripture Attention:** Slowly read Luke 19:41–44 each day and reflect on what Jesus sees.
- **Heart Check:** Notice where you may be settling (routine, distraction, compromise) and gently return to God.
- **Respond in Faith:** Act on one moment where you sense God prompting you.

**Share with the group:**

- What will you practice this week?
  - When and how will you do it?
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**6. Closing Prayer**

Close by praying together:

- Thank Jesus for His compassion—that He sees, grieves, and keeps going.
- Ask for eyes to recognize His presence.
- Ask for hearts that respond with faith, not familiarity.
- Pray for one another—that each person would grow in attentiveness and obedience this week.