

Saturday & Sunday, December 2 & 3, 2017 - "Luke 15 - Liberation Ministry" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Luke 15

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Luke 4:18-19
 - Jesus was in the ministry of liberation (John 20:21)
 - "We are called and equipped for LIBERATION MINISTRY"
 - The question is, what keeps us from doing it?
- **2 Barricades** that keep us from liberation ministry
 - 1) We fail to see and be motivated by the heart of the Father
 - Jesus shook up the social structure and the class systems
 - Luke 15 has 3 stories about things that have been lost (how the people who lost something respond is more important than what was lost)
 - Sheep and the coin → a great celebration when they were found
 - Prodigal son
 - He should have been punished
 - But instead "Let's have a party!"
 - The older son didn't understand his father's heart (The heart of the father for the lost)
 - No one is looking for the lost son (unlike the coin and the sheep)...older son (us) should have been the one to go and find the lost son (Jesus coming to find us)
 - 2) Our understanding of the gospel is too small
 - We sometimes see it as a transaction → what I get out of it
 - The Gospel is Jesus removing the barrier between us and God (Colossians 1:19-20)
 - We need to expand our understanding of what Jesus accomplished on the cross
 - **TO RECONCILE ALL THINGS**
- If we believe the Gospel → It should lead to actively sharing the gospel
- When we have the heart of the father, it changes our witness and changes our generosity

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. When was time that you witnessed or took part in the liberation ministry of Jesus?
2. How is it a struggle for you to know and to have the same heart as the father?
3. What has kept you from the liberation ministry that Jesus has called us to?
4. How have you made the gospel too small? What have you thought? What have you done?
5. How are you doing at actively sharing the gospel? How is God calling you to grow?
6. How is God trying to grow your motivation for the lost? Are you cooperating? Why or why not?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Mark 13 Tues: Mark 14 Wed: Mark 15 Thurs: Mark 16 Fri: Isaiah 9:1-7