

### **What Religion Always Gets Wrong**

Luke 7

#### **Two major questions that religion tends to get wrong...according to Jesus.**

1. How do you **treat** people who aren't as "religious" as you?
2. How does God **interact** with people?

#### **The Outline**

- Jesus has authority from God that extends over distance and disease.
- Jesus has compassion on the least of these.
- Jesus fits the bill for God's promised Messiah.
- We only have two options - blessings or offense - faith or judgment.

#### **How do you treat people who aren't as "religious" as you?**

- The religious Pharisee can only see her **past**.
- Jesus sees her **potential** love.

This is the potential that love and forgiveness have to change a heart!

Question: Do you see sinners for who they've been or what God can make them?

#### **How does God interact with people?**

- The religious Pharisee requires distance from and hostility to sinners because they are **offensive** to God.
- Jesus **pursues** and **relates** to sinners because of the possibility of establishing a healthy relationship through grace and forgiveness.

Distance from and hostility to those who sin prevents them from forgiveness and transformation from sin.

## **Luke Chapter 7**

### Reading and Study Guide

#### **Bible Reading**

- Read Luke 7  
Or
- If you want to listen to it you can visit our Facebook page or our Vimeo page - NewStoryKC

#### **Personal Study**

Read Luke 7:1-10. Jesus has authority over distance and disease according to Luke. The Centurion's response to Jesus demonstrates great faith. He was confident in the Lord. As you look at these verses below, what confidence should you have in the Lord?

John 6:37-40 - All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. **38** For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. **39** And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. **40** For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

Galatians 6:8-9 - Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. **9** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Philippians 4:4-7 - Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! **5** Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. **6** Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This weekend - Aaron talked about how religion and religious people tend to respond versus how Jesus responds to others. As you read these verses - take note of how God responds to you.

1 John 1:9-2:2 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. **2** He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Luke 19:41-42 - As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes."

One of the keys to responding with grace and forgiveness toward others is to have a keen sense of your own sinfulness and the grace that you have received from God. What stands out to you in these verses?

2 Corinthians 5:16-21- So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. **17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:<sup>[a]</sup> The old has gone, the new is here! **18** All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: **19** that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **20** We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. **21** God made him who had no sin to be sin<sup>[b]</sup> for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Titus 3:5-9 - At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. **4** But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, **5** he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, **6** whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, **7** so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. **8** This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone. **9** But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.