

December 15 - Chapter 15

1. What does Jesus say will bring joy in heaven?
One sinner who repents.
2. Why did the son say he was no longer worthy to be called his father's son?
Because he sinned against his father by demanding his inheritance, traveling to a distant country, and squandering his property.
3. Why did the father celebrate when his son returned home?
Because his son was lost and is found.
4. How did the father respond to the elder obedient son who was angry because his father was celebrating the return of the younger son?
He told him that all he has belongs to him. Another way of saying that nothing more will be given to the son who was lost.

Question for Reflection

Jesus teaches about the importance of repentance. Understanding that repentance means a change of mind, can you think of areas of your life that need to be reconsidered this Advent season?

December 16 – Chapter 16

1. If someone is faithful in a very little what will they also be faithful in?
They will be faithful in much.
2. Jesus states that you cannot serve two masters. What two masters was Jesus speaking of?
God and money.
3. What does Jesus say about people who do not listen to Moses and the prophets?
That they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.

Question for Reflection

St. Terese of Lisieux, often called "The Little Flower" spoke of doing the ordinary with extraordinary love. During this Advent season, how can you be faithful in little things by doing the ordinary with extraordinary love?

December 17 – Chapter 17

1. What does Jesus teach about forgiveness? What are the limits to our forgiveness?
There are no limits to how often we are to forgive someone. Jesus teaches that as often as someone sins against you and then repents of that sin you must forgive that person.
2. What does Jesus say that a person with faith just the size of a mustard seed can do?
That person can command a tree to be uprooted and planted in the sea and it would obey.
3. Of the ten lepers who were healed how many returned to thank Jesus?
One, the foreigner.
4. How did Jesus answer the Pharisee who asked when the Kingdom of God was coming?
Jesus answered by telling him that the Kingdom of God is among you now.

Questions for Reflection

1. Are you angry with anyone for some way they might have sinned against you? What are the barriers preventing you from forgiving them?
2. Are there blessings in your life that you may have neglected to thank God for?
3. During this Advent season, are you able to see God's Kingdom around you, here and now?

Reflection Questions & Answers for Luke's Gospel: Chapters 15-21

December 18 – Chapter 18

1. What does Jesus say will happen to all who exalt themselves, and all who humble themselves, before God?
All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.
2. What does Jesus say to the disciples who were ordering the people not to bring their children to Jesus?
“Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; because the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these.”
3. Why does Jesus say that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God?
Because their heart is where their treasure is, with their wealth rather than with God.
4. How does the blind man answer when Jesus asks, “What do you want me to do for you?”
“Lord, let me see again.”

Question for Reflection

During this Advent season, how do you answer Jesus' question to you, “What do you want me to do for you?”

December 19 – Chapter 19

1. Why did Zacchaeus climb the sycamore tree?
To get above the crowds to see Jesus as he was passing by.
2. What did Zacchaeus promise the Lord he would do?
Give half his possessions to the poor, and to anyone he defrauded pay back four times as much.
3. How did Jesus respond to Zacchaeus' promise to repent?
Jesus said to Zacchaeus that today salvation has come to his house.
4. In the parable about the talents, what did Jesus say would happen to those who have nothing?
That even what they have will be taken away.
5. As Jesus approached the city of Jerusalem riding on the colt what reason did he give for why the city would be destroyed?
Because they did not recognize the time of their visitation from God.

Questions for Reflection

1. In the parable of the nobleman the talents represent the gifts that each one of us has been given in service to God's Kingdom. How are you using your gifts to serve the Lord?
2. Do you recognize the times of visitation from God in your life? If so, how do you respond to God's presence?

December 20 – Chapter 20

1. In the parable of the vineyard, what did the tenants do to the son of the owner?
They killed him with the hope of gaining his inheritance.
2. How does Jesus answer when questioned if it is lawful to pay taxes to the emperor?
Give to the emperor the things of the emperor, and to God the things that are God's.

Question for Reflection

Jesus taught to give to the emperor the things of the emperor, and to God the things that are God's. What are the things of God in your life that are due him?

December 21 – Chapter 21

1. What did the poor widow give to cause Jesus to praise her? How did her gift compare to what the rich people were giving?
The poor widow gave two small copper coins as compared to the abundance given by the rich people. Jesus praised her gift because she gave all that she had whereas the rich people gave out of their abundance.
2. What did Jesus predict would happen to the temple when some were speaking about how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated God?
That the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.
3. Why did Jesus tell his followers not to prepare their defense in advance when they are arrested and persecuted?
Because he will give them words and wisdom that their opponents will not be able to withstand or contradict.

Question for Reflection

Do you feel that Jesus was harsh on the rich people who gave from their abundance? Why praise the widow who gave only two small copper coins? What does this reveal about Jesus' concern for our actions?