

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY



GET OUT OF THAT TREE

This month we're looking at three sets of scriptures in Luke pertaining to a relationship with Christ.

Read Luke 18:1-8

In both verses 2 and 4, the judge is described as not fearing God or caring about people.

- However, there is one very significant difference. What is that difference?
 - In verse 2, Luke makes the statement about the judge, but in verse 4 the judge himself says "I don't fear God."
- Can you think of any other scriptures referring to the fear of God?
 - Genesis 22:12, Deuteronomy 6:24, Psalms 115:13, Psalms 128:1-4 are just a few of many.

You could argue the fear of God is not really the main point of verses 1-8.

If that's not the main point, what is it?

- What was it that the widow did that ultimately caused her to get justice?
- What do you take from verse 7?
- Could it be that the main point of these scriptures is to keep praying and don't give up?

Read Luke 8:9-14

Talk about these scriptures. What do they say to you?

- What one word best defines the right attitude towards God?
 - Humility

Now read Luke 19:1-10

Take a few minutes to discuss the following questions as you answer them.

- Where was Zacchaeus?
 - Up in a tree
- Why did Jesus look up at that particular place?
 - Holy Spirit
- How did Jesus know Zacchaeus' name?
 - Holy Spirit
- What is the difference between Jesus' invitation to Zacchaeus' house and how we would define a 'normal' invitation?
 - Jesus invited Himself
- What was the attitude of the people?
 - They grumbled
- Who was it the people were really grumbling against?
 - Jesus
- What difference did the people's attitude make to Jesus?
 - Absolutely none
- What happened when Zacchaeus came face to face with Jesus?
 - Salvation

- What really changed in Zacchaeus?
 - His heart

Let's put all this together.

- What was the point of our first reading Luke 18:1-8?
 - Don't give up, keep praying
- What did we get out of verses 9-14?
 - God desires humility
- What did we get out of Luke 19:1-10?
 - Jesus knows where you are.
 - Jesus knows who you are.
 - Jesus wants to come in.
 - A relationship with Jesus requires a change of heart.