



I Have Decided Week 1 – To Follow Jesus Anywhere Spiritual Formation & Discussion Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

One day Jesus said to his disciples, "There will always be temptations to sin, but what sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting! ² It would be better to be thrown into the sea with a millstone hung around your neck than to cause one of these little ones to fall into sin. ³ So watch yourselves!

"If another believer sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive. ⁴ Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive."

The apostles said to the Lord, "Show us how to increase our faith."

⁶ The Lord answered, "If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'May you be uprooted and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you!

⁷ "When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, 'Come in and eat with me'? ⁸ No, he says, 'Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat. Then you can eat later.' ⁹ And does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not. ¹⁰ In the same way, when you obey me you should say, 'We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.'"

Luke 17:1-10

Reflection Questions:

- What is one chore or household task that you enjoy doing? Why do you like it?
- What stood out to you from Sunday's service? How did you sense God encouraging and challenging you through the songs, the message, and being with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)

- Read through Luke 17:1-10 several times. (If you're with other people, have someone read it out loud.) Take some time to take in the scene and the teaching. What do you notice about Jesus? What do you notice about the disciples? Is there a verse or phrase that stands out to you?
- Eddie shared that while Jesus invited people to follow him, to listen and observe, he also called people to decide and "define the relationship" they would have with him. In one sentence or less, how would you describe your relationship with Jesus?
- Read Luke 14:26-27 and 1 Corinthians 6:19. What do these verses tell you about the decision to follow Jesus?
- Eddie shared, "Most of us do not need more knowledge. Most of us need more action based on the knowledge we already have. A new Bible fact is not the best thing that can happen to you today. **The best thing you can gain from this moment is the determination to exercise the faith you already have.**" How do you react to this?
- Eddie also shared two traits of true servants as an application of Jesus' teaching in Luke 17:
 - **a servant realizes God owes him/her nothing**
 - **a servant obeys everything the master says**

Do you think of yourself as God's servant? Why or why not?
Is there one of these traits that you sense you need to act on this week? What would that look like?
- Is there a decision you need to make today? Pause and write it down. Then, share it with a trusted Christian friend.
- Is there anything else from this teaching that you want to explore more?
- As you close your reflection and discussion, re-read Luke 17:10 - "So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'" Consider writing this out and putting it somewhere you will see regularly this week.
- Take time to pray as you close your time of reflection or discussion, asking God to help you act on what he has asked you to do.

Looking for some ways to grow spiritually?

We have a new resource, the **Write it Down Journal**, which you can get at our Next Steps Area for a suggested donation of \$3 or access online at <https://www.wschurch.org/content/pdf/SpiritualJournal.pdf>. Writing things down is a simple spiritual practice that helps us pay attention to God and what he is teaching us.

Visit www.wschurch.org/resources to see additional tools and resources.

Message Main Points and Scripture:

- **As you wish.**
- Luke 17:3 - "Watch yourselves! If another believer sins, rebuke that person. Then, if there is repentance, forgive. Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive."
- **Define the Relationship.**
- Luke 14:26-27 - "If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple."
- **My example should point people to God's will**
- 1 Cor 6:19 - "You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."
- Luke 17:5 - "The apostles said to the Lord, 'Show us how to increase our faith.'"
- Luke 17:6 - The Lord answered, "If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'May you be uprooted and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you!"
- **The best thing you can gain from this moment is the determination to exercise the faith you already have.**

- Luke 17:7-10 - "When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, 'Come in and eat with me'? No, he says, 'Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat. Then you can eat later.' And does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not. In the same way, when you obey me you should say, 'We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.'"
- **A servant realizes God owes him/her nothing**
- **A servant obeys everything the master says**
- Luke 17:10 - "So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"
- **The happiest people on earth are devoted servants of God**
- Matthew 5:6, The Message - "You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat."