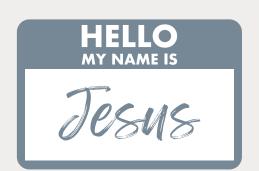
SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

"Should We Look for Another?"

Luke 7:18-35



Link to Watch Sermon





The Gospel of Luke: Meeting Our Savior

Warm-Up Question:

John knew Jesus was the Messiah, but after being put in prison he still had a time of wonder and/or doubt. Do you feel God is ok with you having wonder or doubt?

READ: Luke 7:18-35

7 Reasons Why We Might Ask: "Should we look for another?"

- What do you think about John the Baptist wondering/doubting here? Why do you think he was feeling this way? Can you relate?
- ▶ Read briefly through the following 7 reasons why we sometimes wonder/doubt and discuss on each one:
 - 1. Where do you see it in the passage or in the Bible?
 - 2. The application question under each reason.
- **Persecution** (Think about John's situation... in prison)

Have you ever experienced of any form of persecution because of your faith?

• Suffering (v. 21-23)

Have you ever suffered in a way that made you doubt God's goodness or love?

Expectations (v. 20, 33)

Have you ever had expectations, either knowingly or more subtly, that left you disappointed when you felt Jesus didn't meet them?

• Timing (v. 20)

Have you ever doubted or questioned God's timing in your life?

• Grace (v. 21-22, 34 - think of Jesus being a "friend of sinners")

How does Jesus indicate his primary purpose in coming from this passage, and in what ways are people skeptical of such grace?

• Repentance (v. 30)

Have you ever had, or do you now have, areas in your life that you are unwilling to surrender to Jesus, and what do you do with Jesus request for repentance there?

• Wisdom of the World (v. 33-35)

Have you ever struggled to reconcile your faith with science or some intellectual argument?

- ▶ Choose 1-2 that you most relate with that may have created outward or subtle doubts, and share those reasons and stories.
- How does John's doubting and Jesus's response and grace encourage you?

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

September Focus CHARITY

Principle:

Kingdom & global perspective keeping political identities from becoming idolatries

Resource:

Corey Widmer (Third RVA) "How to Be a Christian in the Election"



Question(s) for Prayer Time:

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Scripture Passages Used:

Luke 7:18 The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, 19 calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 20 And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 21 In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. 22 And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

Luke 7:24 When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 25 What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. 26 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 27 This is he of whom it is written,

"'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

Luke 7:28 I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." 29 (When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, 30 but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.)

Luke 7:31 "To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? 32 They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another,

"'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.'

Luke 7:33 For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' 34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' 35 Yet wisdom is justified by all her children."

Additional Thoughts for Leaders

For More Study of the Passage Passage: Luke 6:17-26

Observation:	
Interpretation:	
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Application:	
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Prayer:	