

LUKE 8:1-56

1. In **Luke 8:1-3**, it was recorded that when Jesus went throughout every city and village in Galilee, preaching and showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God, several of his disciples went with him. State seven male and three female names among those that went with him.

Answer

- It was recorded that the twelve went with him. (Luke 8:1. All of them were males. So, we can state any seven of the twelve. The list of those names can be found in Luke 6:13-16)
 - i. Peter (Simon)
 - ii. Andrew
 - iii. James Zebedee
 - iv. John Zebedee
 - v. Philip
 - vi. Bartholomew
 - vii. Matthew, the tax collector
 - viii. Thomas
 - ix. James Alphaeus
 - x. Simon, called Zelotes
 - xi. Judas the brother of James, and
 - xii. Judas Iscariot
- Three female names were stated.
 - i. Mary Magdalene (Her real name was Mary, but she was called Mary Magdalene because she came from a place called Magdala. Jesus cast out seven demons out of her, and thereafter, she became a major follower of Jesus)
 - ii. Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's Servant
 - iii. Susanna.

2. What is a parable, and according to Matthew 13:10-13, why did Jesus speak in parable?

Answer

A parable is a short, simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.

Jesus spoke in parable to conceal a spiritual truth from the general public.

He said, it was unto his disciples that it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God. But unto others, in parables; so that seeing they might not see, and hearing, they might not understand.

3. Two men heard God's word, and joined the church. Then, challenges, temptation and tribulation of life came upon both. One of them endured the temptations and held unto God. But the other left the church and abandoned God. What can we liken each of them to, in the Parable of the Builders (Luke 6:46-49), and the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:4-15)?

Answer

- i. The one that held unto God.
 - a. In the Parable of the Builders, we can liken him to the wise builder. Who dug deep, and laid his foundation on a rock. Such that when the storm came, the building did not fall.
 - b. In the Parable of the Sower, we can liken him to the "good soil (or ground)" category, who in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, kept it, and brought forth fruit with patience.
 - ii. The one that abandoned God.
 - a. In the Parable of the Builders, we can liken him to the foolish builder, who laid no foundation, but built upon the earth. And when the storm came, the building fell greatly.
 - b. In the Parable of the Sower, we can liken him to the one who received the seed of God's word in a rocky heart. And because it was on the rock, the word of God had no root in his heart, and when temptation came, he fell away.
4. (a) State and describe the method of sowing used in the parable of the sower. (2mrks)
- (b) State the four grounds upon which the seed fell, and their meaning. (2mrks each)

(GOLDEN QUESTION. 10 MARKS. 90seconds)

Answer

- (a) The method of sowing used in the parable of the sower is Broadcasting. This is a sowing method in which seeds are broadcasted or scattered on the surface of the ground.

(b) The four grounds :-

- i. Some fell on the wayside or footpath.

The outcome :- Those passing by stepped upon them, and the fowls of the air devoured them up.

The Meaning :- The footpath symbolizes men with a hardened heart. No matter the word of God that falls upon their heart, they will not understand, and therefore will not believe. And the fowl of the air mentioned refers to Satan and his agents who devour God's word upon the hearts of such men.

(Normally, a footpath is not ideal for any seed to grow. First, because the soil on a footpath is already hardened by the foot of passers. Secondly, those passing by are most likely going to step on the seed. Examples of men in this category where the religious leaders and many of the Pharisees)

- ii. Some fell upon rock (or stony places), where there was no much earth (or soil).

The outcome :- The little earth on the rock makes the seed to grow for a while, but withers away through the scorching of the sun, because the rock prevented it from having root.

The Meaning :- This category symbolizes those that receive the word of God with joy, and for a moment believed. But due to lack of root, when tribulation or persecution arise because of the word, they get offended, and fall away.

- iii. Some seed fell among thorns (weeds).

The thorns or weeds grow along with the plant, and chokes up the plant before it becomes fruitful.

The Meaning :- This category symbolizes those who receive the word of God, but the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke God's word in their heart, making it unfruitful. They got carried away by work, business, academics, that they have no time to meditate continuously and consistently upon the word.

- iv. Some seed fell on good ground.

The outcome :- The good ground allows the seed to germinate and bare hundredfold fruit.

The Meaning :- This category symbolizes those that receive the seed of God's word into a good heart. They meditated upon the word, understood the word, puts the word to use, and became so fruitful in it.

5. **Luke 8:18** “Take heed therefore how ye hear: for **whosoever hath, to him shall be given**, and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have”.

Using the above scripture, explain how a believer can grow in spiritual insight and understanding.

Answer

That scripture says “whosoever has, to him shall be given”. It means, whosoever has the knowledge of spiritual things, and puts them into use, in personally practicing them and teaching them to others, more knowledge and insights into spiritual things shall be committed into his hands.

So, a believer can grow in spiritual insight and understanding by putting to practice the insight he currently has, and as well teaching them to others.

(It is like saying, whosoever bears fruit, grace shall be released for him to bear more fruit. Fruitfulness leads to more fruitfulness (John 15:2). This is why Jesus encouraged in **Luke 8:16** that we should allow the light of God’s word we have to shine for people to see.)

6. When a man becomes saved, he is brought into the family of God. And other believers like him becomes his brethren (Brothers and Sisters). This man now has two families; the spiritual family and the biological family. Owing to Jesus’ response in **Luke 8:19-21**, which is more important, our spiritual family or biological family?

Answer

The Scriptures encourage us to be responsible to our biological families. We are to honour our parents (**Exodus 20:12, Matthew 15:3-6, Ephesians 6:1-3**) and provide for our relatives (**1 Timothy 5:8**). Husbands are to love their wives (**Ephesians 5:25**), and wives are to submit to their husbands (**Ephesians 5:22**). That means our biological families are important. Living contrary to this is going against God’s command.

However, our spiritual family is more stronger, long-lasting and important than our biological family.

The Bible says, if there is a clash, and our biological family insists that we should choose one between our spiritual family and our biological family, we must choose the spiritual. In fact, if a believing woman is married to a man who insists that she should renounce her faith in Christ, such woman should divorce the man and hold on to her faith (**1 Corinthians 7:12-16**).

Jesus also said, we must love him more than our biological brothers and sisters. (**Matthew 10:37**)

A believer should love his biological family, and never abandon the family because of his faith. He must be responsible to his family and relatives. However, where there is a clash of interest, a believer should choose his spiritual family above the biological.

7. Tell a Bible story, related to wind, to encourage a believer who is undergoing a difficult challenge presently.

Answer

Jesus was inside a ship with his disciples. While Jesus was sleeping in the ship, there arose a great storm of wind against them. To the point that their ship was filled with water and about to sink.

Out of fear, the disciples of Jesus woke him up, and said to him, “Master, we are perishing”. They said it out of fear and without faith. Even though Jesus was in their boat, yet, they were afraid.

Jesus dealt with the wind, after which he rebuked his disciples for being afraid and lacking in faith.

As long as Jesus is in your ship, you need not be afraid. Call unto him in faith, and you can be sure this wind will not be your end. For the Psalmist said, “though I walk through the valley of shadow of death, **I fear no evil, for you are with me**”.

Jesus is with you, call on him, and he will deliver you.

8. Describe the miracle performed by Jesus in Gadara, according to the gospel of Luke.

Answer

Briefly narrate the story in **Luke 8:26-39**

9. In the accounts of the gospel writers, Jesus raised three dead people. One was the Widow’s only son at Nain. Another was Jairus’ only daughter. The last one was Lazarus. Briefly describe the raising of Jairus’ daughter.

Answer

Jairus was a ruler of the synagogue. His only daughter of about twelve years old was at the point of death. He came to Jesus and begged him greatly for help. And Jesus agreed.

On the way to Jairus' house, a news came that the daughter was already dead, and Jesus should no longer be bothered. However, Jesus said to Jairus, "Be not afraid, only believe".

Jesus arrived Jairus' house, he saw people mourning for the dead child, and said to them, "Weep not, she is not dead, but sleepeth". But those that were mourning laughed Jesus to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

Jesus then put them all out, and allowed only Peter, James, John and the child's parents inside. He took the child by the hand, and called her to arise.

Her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

Though, Jesus commanded the child's parents to tell no man about what he had done, but this miracle led to his fame going abroad into all that land.

10. Narrate the healing that happened on the way to Jairus' house.

Answer

On the way to Jairus' house, a woman with the issue of blood twelve years came behind Jesus and touched the hem of his garment. This woman had spent all her living upon physicians, and was not healed of any of them.

This woman had said within herself, if I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. She came behind Jesus and touched the border (or hem) of his garment, and immediately her issue of blood dried up, and she felt the healing in her body.

Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned and said to the press (multitude that followed him), "Who touched my clothes?"

His disciples said to him, how can you say "who touched me" when multitude of people are around you.

Jesus looking around, saw the woman, who was afraid and trembling, knowing what was done in her. The woman came to Jesus, fell down before him, and told him the truth. Jesus then said to her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

(NOTE :- All the texts in red are given for understanding purposes. You don't need to state them)