

Things that Really Matter Luke 17

I. Forgiveness – 17:1-6

1. Offenses will come – 1
We live in a broken, sinful world
People around us may offend us
2. Don't you be the cause of offense – 1
There is a consequence for those who offend
3. Offending others is sobering – 2
Especially causing the young to stumble
4. Be willing to forgive the offender – 3-4
Tell him of his offense
If he repent, forgive him – restore him
Forgive even if offenses continue
If he repents continue to forgive
5. May require growing in faith – 5-6
God is at work conforming us to Christ
He wants us to forgive as He does – Eph. 4:32

II. Faithfulness – 17:7-10

1. Servants focus on serving – 7
His focus is not on himself & his needs
2. Servants seek to serve the master – 8
His focus is on the master's needs
3. Servants understand duty – 9
His joy comes in pleasing his master
4. Servants humbly serve – 10
We serve the One who died for us
Surely we should be committed to serve

III. Thankfulness – 17:11-19

1. Jesus continues toward Jerusalem – 11
He is focused on the Father's will
He passes through Galilee & Samaria
2. Meets 10 men who have leprosy – 12
They kept their distance because of spread
3. They cried out to Jesus for mercy – 13
4. Jesus healed them with a word – 14
Sent to the priest who would certify healing
5. One saw his healing & turned back – 15
With a loud voice he glorified God
6. Fell down before Jesus – 16
Gave thanks to Jesus
This man was a Samaritan
7. Jesus asks; where are the 9 – 17-18
Were not ten cleansed?
Were they not thankful?
Yet only one returned to glorify God
And he was a stranger, a Samaritan
8. Jesus commended his faith – 19
Your faith has made you whole

IV. Preparedness – 20-37

1. Nature of God's Kingdom – 20
Pharisees demanded to see evidence

- Show us this kingdom you preach
2. Kingdom of God begins in you – 21
Begins within regeneration internally
Except a man is born again he will not see the Kingdom
Kingdom begins in spiritual form
It must be embraced by faith not sight
We believe because God says it is true
 3. You need to prepare now – 22-25
Deception may come if you seek physical – 22-23
Some will say look here is the kingdom
Don't believe them, they are false prophets
It will come with the speed of lightening – 24
But also Christ will come with full visibility
Rejection & crucifixion must come first – 25
Christ's death is essential to the kingdom
It is the foundation for the kingdom
It will come as with Noah's flood – 26-27
Life was going on when the flood came
Only those prepared were saved
It will be like with Lot and Sodom – 28-29
Again life was going on in face of destruction
Lot escaped but Judgment came quickly
So will it be with Christ's return – 30-37
It will come with suddenness - 30
No time to prepare then – 31
No time to change then
Remember Lot's wife – 32
She heard it was coming
But her heart was not prepared to let go
Preparedness means commitment – 33
If you can't let go you will lose your life
It will be a time of separation – 34-36
Some will be taken others will be left
You will see the evidence then – 37
The birds will gather over those dead