

LIVING FAITH | SURRENDER YOUR HEART

Luke 16:14-18

February 9, 2020

GROUP DISCUSSION

**Group Leader: It might benefit your group discussion if you share these questions with each group member prior to your meeting. You might also consider giving time between group discussion and mutual ministry for your members to spend some one on one time with the Lord before coming back together again.*

REVIEW THE CONTEXT

1. Scan back through Luke 15:1-16:13. What are some of the pharisaical, self-righteous dispositions that Jesus is challenging in these verses?

JESUS CONFRONTS THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS HEART

1. **(See 16:14-15)** What are some abominations that are justified and exalted as “good” by our culture? What are some abominations justified and exalted as “good” by the Church?
2. **(See 16:14-15)** Why do self-righteous people (people who believe that they have something good to contribute to their salvation; i.e. everyone) feel the need to justify their desires/actions? And why do they seek/crave the approval of men to affirm their self-justification?
3. **(See 16:16-17)** Before we get into the application, what is Jesus talking about here? (A. The Pharisees were ridiculing (see 16:14) Jesus because they felt like He was teaching the opposite of what the Word of God teaches. A God who forgives a disrespectful, inheritance-squandering, prostitute-loving sinner? Self-righteous people don’t need grace or forgiveness, so that is an abomination to a pharisee! Jesus responds to their misconception that they are the ultimate keepers of God’s law (and that He is the opposite) by proclaiming what He thinks about God’s Word, and then exposing their hypocrisy).
4. **(See 16:17)** How do self-righteous people try to force themselves into the kingdom of God? How does someone actually enter the kingdom of God?

JESUS REVEALS THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS HEART

1. How has the Holy Spirit convicted you through the sermon or this discussion? What are some ways that you think/act like a self-righteous pharisee?
2. **(See 16:18)** Jesus chose to confront the Pharisees of their hypocrisy regarding marriage and divorce. In what ways did this sermon challenge you to think about marriage the way God does?
3. How does knowing that marriage is for the glory of God impact the way you think about divorce?

JESUS HEALS THE BROKEN HEART (You might point your people to Romans 8:1-11)

1. This is a heavy message. How can we encourage each other by reminding our self-righteous hearts of the gospel of grace?
2. How can we minister to those who have been hurt by divorce with the gospel of grace?