Life of Jesus May 12

The Catch

“…Also the kingdom of heaven is like this. Some fishermen (Christians, ministers, missionaries) throw out their net (the Gospel) out in the lake (the world) and catch (convert) all kinds of fish (people). When the net is full, (the end of time) they will pull it to shore and sit down to divided the fish: (God’s final judgment) the good ones (sincere Christians) to into their buckets, (heaven) and the worthless ones (false Christians, sinners) are thrown away…” (go to eternal damnation.) Matthew 13:47-48. ( ) added.

We know in our hearts that we want to be in the bucket, NOT in the garbage!

The kingdom of heaven is made bigger and Satan’s evil less dangerous by sincere Christians that do not hide the light of Jesus that shines in their hearts under a basket or hide it under their beds but let their light shine so that others can also see their way to Jesus. We must let our light shine like a lighthouse to bring others and help keep others safely in the love of Jesus.

VERSE FOR TODAY: “…In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and

praise your Father in heaven…” Matthew 5:16.

PRAYER THOUGHT: May I never, O Lord, hide from others the love you have placed in my heart, may your light always shine through me.

Life of Jesus May 13

An Important Question

The disciples were discussing among themselves as to who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven and not arriving at an answer asked Jesus who was the greatest. There were some children nearby, Jesus called a child over to stand in front of them and told the disciples that if those seeking him did not become like a child they would not enter the kingdom of heaven. We must welcome children in the Name of Jesus, doing so we also welcome him.

To become child like is to humble ourselves, have the curiosity and excitement in learning about the Lord. In the awe of salvation we will become energetic like a child in the privilege of serving the Lord in His love.

Jesus gives a warning – “If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose his faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around his neck and be drowned in the deep sea.” Matthew 18:6.

The fate of a person who does not allow someone to come to the Lord could be the same who cause another to lose their faith for – Jesus said, “Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14.

We must become like children and bring our children to the Lord.

VERSE FOR TODAY: “…I assure you that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.” Mark 10:15.

PRAYER THOUGHT: May I never lose my childlike enthusiasm for you, O Lord, and help others to keep and grow in faith.

Life of Jesus May 14

Forgiveness

Jesus told this parable to show us that we must forgive others:

There was a king, whose servant had borrowed money and couldn’t pay it back, at first the king was going to sell him into slavery but then took pity on him and forgave him his debt.

The servant went out and met a fellow worker that owed him money. The servant demanded payment but when the co-worker couldn’t pay; he threw him in jail until he could pay.

When the king heard about this he in turn threw the first servant in jail! From Matthew 18:21-34.

The king in this case is God, and we are the servants, if we forgive others, then God will forgive us and vice versa, when God forgives us we must forgive others.

In the Lord’s Prayer we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others, we must be very conscience of how we DO forgive others.

VERSE FOR TODAY: And Jesus concluded, “That is how my Father in heaven will treat every one of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart”. Matthew 18:35.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to forgive others with the proper attitude of heart and mind. Thank-you for giving your life so that my sins can be forgiven.

Life of Jesus May 15

A Rich Question

A very rich young man came to ask Jesus a question about what good thing he must do to go to heaven. Jesus said that it wasn’t good things he needed to do but keep the commandments. Jesus named some of the commandments given to Moses; the young man said he had obeyed the commandments since he was very young.

Jesus said then in that case that he would need to sell all that he had and give the money to the poor. That was the last thing the rich young man wanted to hear!

Jesus went on to say it was very difficult for a rich person to get into heaven, not because they are rich but because the rich tend to depend on their riches instead of trusting in the Lord!

-When the disciples heard this, they were completely amazed, “Who, then, can be saved?” They asked.

Jesus looked straight at them and answered, “This is impossible for human beings, but for God everything is possible.” Matthew 19:25-26.

No matter what we do we cannot save ourselves, we must have the love of Jesus in our heart and trust God for our salvation.

VERSE FOR TODAY: “I repeat: it is much harder for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than a camel to go through the eye of a needle.” Matthew 19:24.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me to put my trust in you, O Lord. Not in material things that will not last forever.

Life of Jesus May 16

Be Prepared

Jesus told this parable to keep us alert unto his coming:

There were ten maidens, with lamps, waiting for the bridegroom to arrive, five maidens brought extra oil and were prepared for a long wait. Five maidens were sure the bridegroom would arrive before their oil ran out.

When the bridegroom did not arrive until midnight, the five foolish maidens were out of oil but the five wise maidens just trimmed their lamps and went in with the bridegroom. The five foolish maidens had to go out and buy oil; by the time they returned it was too late the door was locked. From Matthew 25:1-13. KJV.

The bridegroom in the parable is Jesus and his eminent return, we don’t know how long it will be, we must keep our hearts and lives prepared for our Lord’s coming, we may not be able to dash out for salvation, and we don’t know how long before our lives will end or when Jesus will come again.

We must not put off being put right with God!

VERSE FOR TODAY: And Jesus concluded, “Be on your guard, then, because you do not know the day or the hour.” Matthew 25:13

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, thank-you for your saving grace. Help me to be prepared at all times for death or your second coming.

Life of Jesus May 17

Using Our Talents

This parable Jesus told is about a man who gave three of his servants talents (one talent is 750 ounces of silver) according to their abilities. Then left on a long journey, when he returned he called his servants to him to see how they had used their talents. Two of the servants had doubled their talents, but one bad and useless servant buried his talent because he was afraid of his master. – ‘As for this useless servant-throw him outside in darkness; there he will cry and grind his teeth.’ Matthew 25:30.

We, as servants of Jesus Christ, are also given talents, not money, but actual talent; according to the ability that Jesus wants us to serve him. When Jesus returns, we will also be rewarded according to how we have used our talents in His service. We have the choice of using our talents wisely and to the glory of God, perhaps receiving a higher reward or if we’ve hidden our talent, we perhaps will not lose our salvation, but our heavenly existence may not have as great of reward as it would if we would have used our talents wisely.

Our service won’t “buy” our way into heaven but part of our love for the Lord is using our talents in His service. Do you have a talent, an ability that you could be using in the service of the Lord and are not?

VERSE FOR TODAY: ‘Well done, you good and faithful servant!’ Said the master. ‘You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!’ Matthew 25:23.

PRAYER THOUGHT: May I, O Lord, use my talent for service that you have given me to its full potential.

Life of Jesus May 18

Building a Foundation

For a happy and successful life we need to have a firm foundation to base our lives on, just as the builder builds a house on a solid foundation – “…He is like a man who, in building his house, dug deep and laid the foundation on rock. The river overflowed and hit the house but could not shake it, because it was well built…” Luke 6:48. We must build our lives on the firm foundation of God’s Word by hearing and obeying God, so when the flood of life’s problems surrounds us, we can stand firm!

If we hear the Word of God and don’t listen and obey, we will be like the builder that used no foundation under his house and – “…when the flood came the house fell at once, and what a terrible crash that was!” Luke 6:49b. Our life could crash equally as terrible.

Hearing and obeying is where our walk with Jesus starts, after hearing we start obeying and then doing the Will of God.

There is more than just “head knowledge” we must also have “heart knowledge”, the love of Jesus in our hearts! We must continually read and study our guide, the Bible, fellowship with other Christians to keep our foundation firm

VERSE FOR TODAY: "So then, anyone who hears these words of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on a rock..." Matthew 7:24

PRAYER THOUGHT: Guide me, O Lord, in maintaining a firm foundation and help me to help others as the Spirit leads.

Life of Jesus May 19

An Anointing

When a sinful woman heard Jesus was at a Pharisee’s house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume to the house, knelt before Jesus, wetting his feet with her tears, wiping them with her hair, kissed them and then perfumed his feet.

The people in the house could not understand why Jesus, would allow her to do this!

Jesus knew of her sin but he also knew how great her love was hand how much she wanted to be forgiven. From Luke 7:37-46. – “…I tell you, then, the great love she has shown proves that her many sins have been forgiven. But whoever has been forgiven little shows only a little love.” Luke 7:47.

Many of us like the Pharisee, “born into” our faith, we love the Lord but our walk may not be as exciting as a person that has turned from a whole career of sin to Jesus. There is nothing like the excitement of a new Christian and the perspective this new enthusiasm has on our walk with Christ and on theirs.

We must never become satisfied in our walk with the Lord but must continue to work and learn with zeal and enthusiasm.

VERSE FOR TODAY: But Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Luke 7:50

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me never to stop seeking your face, O Lord, and learning about your infinite love and wisdom.