

March 16/17



WHERE IS YOUR FAITH?

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INTRODUCTION

Last week, Pastor Chip taught us how receiving Jesus brings power into our lives. This week, Pastor Shane helps us survey Luke 7-9 where we see how Jesus' power was manifested in the lives of those who trusted Him while He walked on earth. Jesus still does amazing things - not with amazing people but with simple faith.

DISCUSSION

1. Divide your members into three groups, and have each group take one chapter each of **Luke 7-9**. Study each of the characters or group of characters who interacted with Jesus. With what attitude did they approach Jesus? How did Jesus react to their attitudes? How can our attitudes affect our faith and relationship with Jesus?
2. **Read the following passages from Luke: 7:1-10, 7:11-17, 8:26-39, 8:40-56, 9:10-17 and 9:37-43.** Discuss how Jesus reacts to the needs of those around Him. Do you believe Jesus is that concerned about your personal needs today?
3. Considering your responses from questions one and two, discuss how our attitudes affect Jesus' response to our needs and/or the work of Jesus in our lives. How can your personal attitude improve?
4. **Read Luke 9:23-26 and Luke 9:57-62.** Discuss what true discipleship might look like in today's culture. What can we do to be better disciples of Jesus?

DO SOMETHING

1. Reread the Scriptures used in the discussions above. Consider your attitudes when you approach the Lord with prayer requests. Do you need to approach Him in a different manner? Write a prayer, and use it as a template for future prayers.
2. Prayerfully consider who you need to invite to one of our Easter services next month. Share with your group, and pray for open doors and hearts.
3. **Reread Luke 9:23-26.** Name one practical area of your life where you could improve your relationship with Jesus. Now write down a step you will take to become a better disciple of Christ.

RESOURCES

1. *The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren is "a manifesto for Christian living in the 21st century...a lifestyle based on eternal purposes, not cultural values."
2. Derek Wilder integrates psychology, theology, social work and the newer field of life coaching in his book *Freedom: How Grace Transforms Your Life Now*. Whatever emotional or spiritual challenge you face, bring it to this book.
3. Check out this short video in RightNow media entitled *Growing Your Faith in Jesus* with Dr. Darrell Bock from Dallas Theological Seminary.