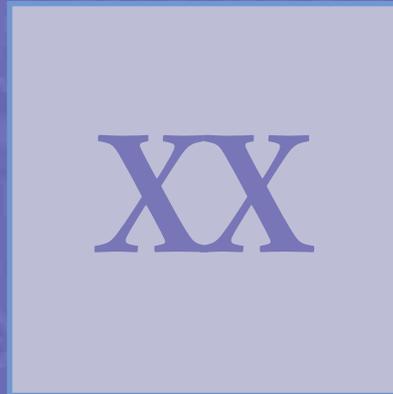
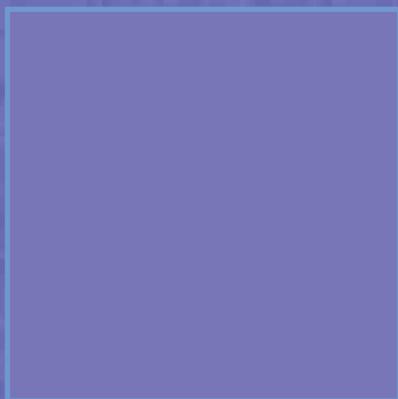


C H A P T E R



1. As we do each week, read the chapter at least twice before beginning the study guide. You might like to hear it read aloud using the YouVersion Bible app. The app is free to download. This allows me to listen several times before I sit down to study.
2. Where is Jesus as Luke 20 opens and what is he doing?
3. The word translated “good news” or “gospel” in Luke 20:1, is the Greek word *Euaggelizo*. Luke is referring to the glad tidings of the coming kingdom of God and salvation. The people were listening intently to Jesus.

Who showed up to question Jesus?

What did they want to know?
4. Jesus did not protest the arrogance of these men questioning him. He simply asked them a question to reveal their true intent. What did he ask them?
5. This was not a hard question to answer. John the Baptist was well known by all at that time. John’s message was not complicated. Do you recall what John’s message was? If you don’t remember, look back at Luke 3:3.
6. John’s message was easy to understand. Jesus is preaching the same message of good news concerning the kingdom of God. Why did these men feel such hostility to a message of hope and restoration?
7. What is the root problem of these religious leaders?
Read Proverbs 27:4 and James 3:14-16
8. Read Galatians 5:19-21. It has been said, ‘Choose your friends wisely.’ Who are the companions of jealousy mentioned in these verses?

What is the admonition found in Romans 12:2?
9. The text tells us they discussed Jesus’ question. What were their thoughts as they tried to come up with an answer?
 - a. If we say heaven, he will ask, _____
 - b. If we say, of human origin, _____
 - c. They answered _____
10. Jesus saw through the arrogance of their question and their fear of losing the approval of the crowd. He had not asked them a difficult question. They were the religious leaders of Israel, anyone in the crowd could have answered Jesus’ question. What was Jesus’ answer to their question?
11. It would be wise to take a lesson from this exchange between Jesus and those who opposed him. When we are opposed, we need not explain everything to the satisfaction of others. There are those who would not be swayed to believe no matter what is said. It is futile to try to teach holy concepts to those who have no interest and will only continue to seek a way to discredit our words. Do not stop sharing truth but be discerning concerning your audience. It is never our words that win the lost to Christ. Read Matthew 7:6, what did Jesus say concerning this matter? Write Matthew 7:6 in your own words.

12. Jesus turns his attention away from their question, back to teaching the crowd. He uses a parable. Let's take a few minutes to read the parable again and identify the characters.
- The owner who planted the vineyard represents _____
 - The vineyard represents _____ Read Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:8
 - The farmers left to care for the vineyard represent _____ 2 Chronicles 36:15-16
 - The servants sent to collect the owners share of the crop represent _____
Luke 3:1-3; Mark 9:36-41
 - The son sent represents _____
 - The others who would be given the vineyard after the judgment is carried out

13. What did the vineyard owner send his servant to get?
14. What happened to the first servant sent to the vineyard?
15. What happened to the second servant sent to the vineyard?
16. What happened to the third servant sent to the vineyard?
17. What happened to the son sent to the vineyard?
18. Note the progression of aggression by these greedy tenants. Do you see how this parable points to Jesus and all those who had come before him to prepare the way for Messiah?
- a. Beaten and sent away empty handed
 - b. Beaten and treated shamefully with insults and contempt then sent away empty handed
 - c. Wounded and thrown out of the vineyard, with no concern for whether he lived or died
 - d. They killed the son out of greed.
- What does this tell you about the heart of our God?
19. Read Luke 20:15 again, what future event is Jesus fully aware of?
Read Mark 10:45 to clarify Jesus' purpose for coming.
20. Jesus clearly states there will be a time of divine judgment. Everyone listening to Jesus would have pictured the vineyard as representing Israel. This was often a reference to God's people Israel at that time. Read Isaiah 5:1-7 again, what do you learn about God's vineyard? What had God done for his vineyard, Israel?
21. The people understood that Jesus was referring to Israel in his parable. When they heard of the divine judgment to come, what was their response in Luke 20:16?
What caused them such fear?
22. Read Hebrews 10:30-31, what does the author of Hebrews say about the judgement of God?

23. Had the religious leaders been interested in seeking truth, they could have listened carefully to what Jesus shared, Luke 20:17. How did this teaching answer their question (Luke 20:2) concerning his authority?
24. What is the end that is determined for those who stand up in defiance against what God has foreordained?
25. Take a few minutes to look closer at Luke 20:17-19 and do a bit of research. What is a cornerstone and what is its purpose?
26. After defining cornerstone, who do you believe Jesus is referring to as the cornerstone rejected?
27. Who chose to reject this cornerstone?
28. Even though some chose to reject Jesus as the cornerstone, did that stop him?
Was God's plan thwarted because these religious leaders chose to reject him as their Messiah?
29. Were the religious leaders aware of the fact that Jesus was referring to them in the parable he had just shared?
30. What was their response to all Jesus was saying?
What did they want to do to him?
Why did they have such hostility?
What kept their aggression at bay?
31. Even though they could not have Jesus arrested for making them angry, they did not give up and go away. Scripture says they kept a close watch on him and sent spies who pretended to be sincere. They try to disarm Jesus with flattery. Does flattery work on you?

Have you ever had someone who opposed you come up and begin flattering you?

Did your senses tell you something is not right here?
32. Next, they feign a longing for truth. Write out the question asked of Jesus by these imposters.

In my Bible I like to highlight Jesus words in bright yellow and the words of the Pharisees in orange one so I can spot them easily when reading the chapter.
33. Jesus saw right through their deception. We, too, often recognize that someone is attempting to trap us in our words. If we are not careful and prayerful, we can answer too quickly. How did Jesus' answer and show great wisdom?
34. What affect did Jesus' answer have on the deceptive spies sent to trap him? Luke 20:26
35. Luke 20:27 states very clearly the belief of the Sadducees. What did the Sadducees believe about life after death?

36. If they do not believe there is a resurrection, why this elaborate question about seven brothers? Ironically, what is the question they asked Jesus?
37. Notice even after this ridiculous question, Jesus does not get angry and storm away. He took the time to explain the resurrection. What truth about the resurrection did he share?
- Why do you believe he would even waste his breath answering these imposters?
- Do you believe they were the only ones standing there that day?
38. Jesus had answered well. What was the response of at least some of the teachers of the law that day?
39. Without a bit of hesitation, in verse 45 we read, Jesus turns to his followers and shares a warning. What is the warning?
- Who is he warning them to beware of?
- What do they do that is deceptive?
- What will be the result for these deceivers?
40. What are some of the characteristics of these teachers of the law? Look at Luke 20:46-47, describe these men. They are...
41. Do you know anyone who has similar characteristics? Please do not write their name, but carefully consider their attributes and actions. Read 1 Corinthians 5:6 and Galatians 5:9. As believers, why should we worry less about the habits of others and be more concerned about our own character?
42. As Jesus was preparing his disciples for his death, he was very concerned for his followers. John 17:15 tells us the prayer of his heart for his followers. What did Jesus ask on behalf of those who place their trust in him?
43. There are many things going on in our world today that cause anxiety. As believers and followers of Christ what are we instructed to do? Read 1 Peter 1:13-16 and 1 Peter 3:15-16.
44. Over and over, we have seen Jesus' authority brought into question. Have you ever had your authority questioned?
- What was your response to those who caused you this stress?
- Do you feel you handled the situation well?
- Or do you look back and think it could have been handled better?
- If you are in this situation again, how might you handle it differently?
- Do we need to fret and worry when we are in difficult situations as followers of Jesus Christ?
45. Read Matthew 10:19-20, how are we to respond even in the direst situations?
46. Do you struggle remembering that as a follower of Jesus Christ you have authority? How does knowing this change things?

47. It is a fact, in this world we will all have problems. Difficulties are a part of life. But we are not alone. Are you focusing on the size of the problem or the Problem Solver?
48. It has been said that you cannot always change the situation, but you can change your attitude. A positive attitude goes a long way toward solving many problems. What are some steps you can take to change your attitude, which in turn can help resolve a problem? Be as specific as possible.
49. Looking at your personal walk with Jesus, where would you place yourself on the line below.
Surviving-----Thriving
50. Which would you say you are investing the most time, energy, and attention to: work, home, kids, marriage, or your relationship with Christ?
51. Concentrating on our personal relationship with Christ benefits all our other relationships. Are there changes you could make today that would move you closer to thriving in your walk of faith?

Biblical References

Day One

Question 7

Proverbs 27:4 (NIV) Anger is cruel and fury overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?

James 3:14-16 (NIV) But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

Question 8

Galatians 5:19-21 (NIV) The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Romans 12:2 (NIV) Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Day Two

Question 11

Matthew 7:6 (NIV) *“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.”*

Question 12

Isaiah 5:1-7 (NIV) I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? ⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” ⁷ The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Psalms 80:8 (NIV) You transplanted a vine from Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

2 Chronicles 36:15-16 (NIV) The LORD, the God of their ancestors, sent word to them through his messengers again and again, because he had pity on his people and on his dwelling place. ¹⁶ But they mocked God’s messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the LORD was aroused against his people and there was no remedy.

Luke 3:1-3 (NIV) In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Mark 9:36-41 (NIV) ... Taking the child in His arms, He said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in My name welcomes Me, and whoever welcomes Me welcomes not only Me, but the One who sent Me.” ³⁸John said to Him, “Teacher, we saw someone else driving out demons in Your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not accompany us.” ³⁹“Do not stop him,” Jesus replied. “For no one who performs a miracle in My name can turn around and speak evil of Me. ⁴⁰For whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹Indeed, if anyone gives you even a cup of water because you bear the name of Christ, truly I tell you, he will never lose his reward.

Question 19

Mark 10:45 (NIV) For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Day Three

Question 20

Isaiah 5:1-7 (NIV) I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? ⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to

my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briars and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” ⁷ The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Question 22

Hebrews 10: 30-31 (NIV) “For we know him who said, “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” and again, “The Lord will judge his people.” ³¹ It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

Day Four

Question 41

1 Corinthians 5:6 (NIV) Your boasting is not good. Don’t you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough?

Galatians 5:9 (NIV) “A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough

Day Five

Question 42

John 17:15 (NIV) *My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.*

Question 43

1 Peter 1:13-16 (NIV) Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

1 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV) But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Question 45

Matthew 10:19-20 (NIV) But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.