

C H A P T E R



1. It is very important for we begin with prayer. We must come with eyes and ears open to what God is speaking. Reading the chapter multiple times enables us to become familiar with the people and events, before starting to answer the questions for Luke 13.
2. Luke 13:1-5 mentions two events, which had recently happened. I'm sure these events would have been a huge part of the people's conversations. We see someone brought it up, while Jesus was teaching.
Briefly state the two events
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3. The Galileans, mentioned in Luke 13:1, had travelled quite a distance, from Galilee to Jerusalem.

What were they doing when they were killed?

Who ordered them killed?

Where did he rule? Read Luke 3:1
4. Jesus, himself, brought up the second event. What point was he trying to make as he discussed these two events with the people present that day?
Read Romans 3:23 and Hebrews 9:27
With these verses in mind, what truth do you believe Jesus is trying to help them understand?

Romans 3:23
For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Hebrews 9:27
And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:
5. Have you ever heard someone ask, "Why do bad things happen to good people?"
These Galileans were trying to bring a sacrifice. The people at Siloam were simply in or near the tower, when it fell. Why do you believe these bad things happen?

The Bible makes it quite clear. Loving God does not guarantee a problem-free life, just a perfect eternity.
How would you answer a person who asked you, why bad things happen to good people?
6. The thinking of Jesus's day was; when bad things happened, it was because someone sinned.
Read John 9:1-2, Jesus was asked this very question. As a follower of Christ, what should be our response to suffering?

John 9:1-2
As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

John MacArthur Study Bible notes, for John 9:2-3
"A common belief in Jewish culture was that suffering was the result of some great sin. But Christ used this man's suffering to teach about faith and to glorify God. We live in a fallen world where good behavior is not always rewarded, and bad behavior not always punished. Therefore, innocent people suffer. If God took suffering away whenever we asked, we would follow him for comfort and convenience, not out of love and devotion."
7. According to Luke 13:3, 5, what is the most important decision anyone can ever make?

8. Jesus taught, using a parable, once again.
John 13:6-9 is a parable about a _____ that was not bearing fruit.
9. Read the parable once more and identify each character. Keep in mind that Jesus is speaking to a large crowd, consisting primarily of Jews.
The vineyard owner had waited the proper amount of time. After three years, this tree should have borne fruit.
This parable reminds me of Exodus 32:9-14 and Numbers 14:11-24. Both are times when God was about to destroy Israel, but Moses interceded for the Israelites. It was not pity for Israel that caused Moses to intercede. It was love for God, his character and his reputation. Identify the characters in this parable.
- The vineyard owner-
 - The fig tree-
 - The servant who offered to try one more

10. Borrowed time is not indefinite time. Read Isaiah 55:6-7, underline the verbs that speak to the actions men and women should take while it is available to us. What is the promised to those who obey?

Isaiah 55:6-7 *“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon”*

11. The servant in this parable is asking for grace.
Define grace.

12. Let’s take a few minutes to look at grace.
Fill in the chart below.

	What you learn about grace from the scripture
Ephesians 2:8-9	
Acts 20:24	
James 4:6	
Romans 3:24 and Titus 3:7	
Hebrews 4:16	
Titus 2:11-14	
2 Timothy 2:1	

13. After all you have seen concerning grace, is God’s gift of saving grace something you have experienced personally?
If not, and you would like to, you simply repent and ask Jesus to forgive your sins and come into your life. If you feel a tug in this direction, that tug is Jesus, standing at the door seeking to come in. It is up to you to open the door of your heart and invite him in.

If you do, please contact me at kathypatton16@gmail.com
I’d love to hear your story.

14. Verses 10-13 are a beautiful example of God's grace lavished on a woman in the crowd that day. What was her problem?
How long had she suffered?
What was her response to this gift?
15. Think of a time when a burden you had been carrying was finally lifted. What was your response?
16. One might think, the room would burst into a chorus of "Hallelujah!" It did not. What did the leader of the synagogue say?

What does his comment reveal about his heart toward ministry and people?

17. There is a danger, of which believers must be on guard against. It is seeing ministry as work. There are aspects of loving and caring for others that are difficult, time consuming and energy draining. However, we must never forget why we are doing, what we are doing.
Read Luke 10:27; 1 John 4:19; John 13:15-17
What is to be the reason behind our helping to meet needs?

1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

John 13:15-17

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Luke 10:27

He answered, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' ; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' "

18. Once again, Jesus does not mince words. He calls those leaders, hypocrites. What example does he give to help them understand his actions?
19. The scripture tells us; when Jesus said this, his opponents (some translations say his adversaries) were _____ but the people were _____ with all the wonderful things he was doing.
20. One of the problems with having a leader with a bad attitude is their influence. My pastor, Craig Groeschel says "Leadership is influence and everyone has influence." Who are you influencing today?

What is your influence?

21. Did you know our emotions are contagious?
Just as we can pass on germs, when we get in close proximity, we can also pass on a negative attitude, a sad countenance, fear, and anxiety. By the same token, we can pass along confidence and hope, a positive attitude, and strength to face a difficult problem.
Do you know someone who is contagiously negative?

Please do not write their name.

Do you know someone who is contagiously positive?

What kind of friend are you to others?

22. The next parable Jesus uses to teach is often called the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast. Two small, seemingly insignificant things and yet they render great blessing and change. What does Jesus use these two items to illustrate?

What difference did they each make where they were placed?

23. Would you say this is true in your life?

Have you experienced the joy of God's grace personally?

What are you doing with this grace?

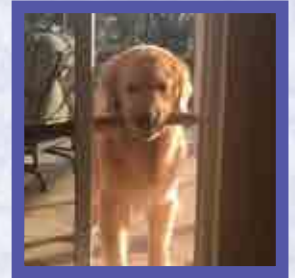
Grace should not be hoarded; it is meant to be shared. How might you share the gift of God's grace today?

24. Many people claim to be on a spiritual journey. Jesus shared a parable about this very thing in Luke 13:22-30. What was the distinguishing characteristic about the door to be chosen?

25. Recently, I watched a funny YouTube video.

A dog wanted to come back in the house, but he had a long stick sideways in his mouth and the stick would not fit through the door. Try as he might it did not work. Sadly, he would not put the stick down so he could come back in the house.

What type of things do you think people are often unwilling to lay down?



26. The narrow door is a reference to heaven itself. Jesus said many will try to enter and will not be able to. If we are unwilling to lay down some of the things we are holding on to, we will not get through the narrow door. Jesus longs for us to lay down everything that hinders us. Looking back over the list of things you wrote in question 24, why would these things hinder us from entering heaven?

This is a very important question, do not pass by too quickly. What part does procrastination, complacency, and just plain busyness play in someone being unable to enter heaven?

27. Some people might believe this is important but just not imperative. Have you ever waited too long, and time ran out for something you considered doing?

According to Luke 13:23-30, will there come a time when it is too late?

Then what?

28. I have heard people say, "You should not try to scare people with Hell." I agree that not the best way to help a friend come to know Christ. Although, how loving is it to know there is a danger ahead and never mention it?



How do you feel when you see these signs posted; angry or grateful?



Day Four

29. Luke 13:31 could be mistaken for a word of kindness by the Pharisees. What do we know about the relationship between the Pharisees and Jesus?

Look up Luke 6: 2,7,11; Luke 11:53; Luke 13:17
Why do you believe they warned Jesus of Herod's intentions?

30. Herod is the tetrarch of what area? Read Luke 3:1
31. By considering the warning given to Jesus, by the Pharisees, where do you believe Jesus has been teaching?
32. Have you ever been given a warning you did not fear?

Did you consider the source and continue doing what was important?

33. This is one reason Believers should be very careful to discern the words shared with us. There are only two forces at work in the world, the Spirit of God, and the spirit of Satan. If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, you have the Holy Spirit living in you. When we are familiar with his voice, we will be able to distinguish between the Spirit of God and the spirit of Satan behind the words spoken to us. What is the Believer given through the Spirit living in us?

Fill in the blank below, 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another _____, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”

34. Read 1 John 4:1. What is the warning given to Believers here?

1 John 4:1

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, be cause many false prophets have gone out into the world.

35. Discernment is said to be the power or faculty of the mind, by which we can distinguish one thing from another, such as truth from falsehood. This is often called spiritual maturity. Is this an area where you see improvement?

Are you growing in your ability to discern?

36. Read Hebrews 5:11-14. What are the signs of spiritual maturity?

Verse 12

Verse 13

Verse 14

Hebrews 5:11-14

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. ¹²In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! ¹³Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

37. Read Philippians 2:5. What is the key to spiritual maturity?

Philippians 2:5

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus

38. What is the mindset spoken of in Philippians 2:5?

What will that look like as we live out our faith?

39. How are we to approach the idea of spiritual maturity? Read Matthew 5:6; and 2 Peter 1:5.

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

2 Peter 1:5

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge

40. Jesus could face opposition and suffering, because he came with a purpose. He was sent by God to seek and save the lost. How we respond to suffering says something about our theology. How well we know the character of our God is the foundation of our belief and hope. If we are discouraged, often it is because we have allowed our focus to shift. We have the wrong perspective. Discouragement is one of the enemy's greatest tools.

What negative effects have you experienced in times of discouragement?

41. Do you think this was Satan's plan, to discourage Jesus?

If Satan would use others in an attempt to discourage Jesus, will he not use this same tool on us?

42. Discouragement can lead us to compromise, if we do not stop it quickly. Have you ever suffered discouragement and wanted to quit?

What did you do?

Where did you turn?

Read James 1:12. What is promised to those who persevere?

James 1:12

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

43. If you are discouraged today, why not talk to God about it? He is the source of all blessings and strength. Look up these, well-known and much-loved, words of encouragement and strength. What truth can be gleaned?

John 16:33

1 Peter 5:7

Proverbs 3:5-6

Isaiah 40:31

Isaiah 41:10

Joshua 1:9

Deuteronomy 31:8

Jeremiah 29:11

1 Corinthians 15:58

Psalm 55:22

Philippians 4:6-7

Ephesians 6:10-18

