

- Last week we looked at some very important events in Christ's life and some important principles he taught. We looked at the importance of Peter's confession that Christ was indeed the Son of God (Matthew 16:13-20, Mark 8:27-30, Luke 9:18-21), the importance of leaving others (including family) to follow Christ (Matthew 16:21-28, Mark 8:31-9:1, Luke 9:22-27), Christ's transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-3, Mark 9:2-13, Luke 9:28-36), His healing of an epileptic child when His apostles could not, (Matthew 17:14-20, Mark 9:14-29, Luke 9:37-43), and how He instructed Peter to pay the temple tax with a coin he would find in a fish's mouth. (Matthew 17:23-27, Mark 9:30-37, Luke 9:44-45). We also talked about Christ's dispute resolution teachings. We looked at His view on who would be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven (no one who does not remove selfish ambition and become as innocent as a child) (Matthew 18:1-14, Mark 9:33-50, Luke 9:46-50) the importance of a spirit of perpetual forgiveness, (Matthew 18:1-35) the importance of saving lives not extracting revenge (Luke 9:51-56), and the importance of following Christ immediately and not making excuses no matter how good they seem. (Luke 9:57-62) Finally we look at Christ sending out seventy people two by two and how they had great results. (Luke 10:1-24)
- Today we are going to look at several incidents of conflict Christ had in his ongoing confrontations with the Pharisees (Jewish religious leaders of the day who are trying to entrap Him) and talk through the detail of a sermon Luke records which Christ delivered. In fact, of the Gospel accounts, only Luke records all the things we are going to look at in this lesson – Matthew and Mark both record one incident and Matthew records another, but we are primarily going to use Luke's Gospel account.
- A lawyer comes to Jesus and tests Him by asking for clarification on who his neighbor is (because he wants to know how Christ will interpret the law "Love your neighbor as yourself"). In response Jesus tells what we have come to know as the "Parable of the Good Samaritan." He illustrates a man travelling alone who is beaten and left for dead by robbers. Two Jewish religious leaders of the day pass by choosing not to become involved. A third man passes by who happens to be a Samaritan (one of the most hated and looked down upon groups of people by the Jews). The Samaritan takes care of the man at great inconvenience to himself. Christ asks the man who was neighborly and the man responds, "the one who showed mercy." Christ tells him to go and act the same way. (Luke 10:25-37)
- This parable has become so well-known we have a body of law in this country called the "Good Samaritan Laws" which protect people who are helping others in times of emergency.
- Jesus goes to the house of two sisters named Mary and Martha. Martha was preparing the meal while her sister Mary was listening to Christ's teaching. Martha complained to Christ that Mary wasn't helping her, but Christ says Mary has chosen to do the better thing. (Luke 10:38-42)
- Christ repeats a shorter version of the example prayer that He prayed during the Sermon on the Mount. Here it is significant for two reasons: 1) the apostles specifically asked Him

to teach them to pray, and 2) it is almost a direct repeat of the example prayer Christ gave us during the Sermon on the Mount. It's almost as if he were saying "well since you didn't pick up on this before, I will do it again." The He offers a couple of illustrations on prayer to emphasize the fact that those who ask are a lot more likely to receive gifts from God. (Luke 11:1-13)

- Christ casts out a demon and some people say, "only a devil can cast out devils." Christ says "if that were true, then all who cast out devils are devils (presumably including some of them and the prophets, etc.). Christ also said that those who were not with Him were against Him. (Matthew 12:22-37, Mark 3:19-30, Luke 11:14-23)
- Jesus emphasizes that hearing is not enough, but keeping the word is even more important. He invokes the example of the prophet Jonah preaching to the city of Nineveh in the Old Testament. He says preaching like Jonah did should be enough to cause repentance like it did in Nineveh, that people don't need signs to believe. (Matthew 12:38-50, Luke 11:24-36)
- Christ goes to eat at a Pharisees house and they are dismayed because He doesn't wash up before he eats. But Christ tells them they are like that, all clean on the outside and not clean on the inside. As an example, He tells them that they are careful to follow the letter of the law but "neglect the weightier matters of the law." (Luke 11:37-45)
- Christ preaches another sermon in which He re-emphasizes a lot of things He has said earlier to His followers including 1. Beware of the teachings of the Pharisees; 2. Fear Satan, not things in this world; 3. Don't worry about things in this world because God knows what you need; 4. Confess God before men so He will confess that you are His; 5. don't worry about what you will say when you must defend God because the Holy Spirit will guide you when you most need it. (Luke 12:1-12)
- Someone asks Christ to tell his brother to divide the inheritance with him. Christ uses this as a teaching moment about greed and tells a story about a wealthy man who must build bigger barns to store his great harvest but God says that he will die tonight anyway so all his planning is irrelevant. (Luke 12:13-21)
- Christ says not to worry and compares us to grass, flowers, and ravens and says that God takes care of them, so He will take care of us even more. Christ also urges us to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, because these are immune to moths, rust, and thieves. (Luke 12:22-34)
- Christ emphasizes the need to be prepared by comparing the return of the Lord to a wedding party waiting for the groom and not knowing when he was coming. Christ also tells a parable about two misbehaving servants while their master is away, and says the one who knew his master's will but didn't do it will receive a more severe beating than the one who didn't know his master's will. Christ uses that parable to illustrate that to whom much has been given, much is expected. (Luke 12:35-48)
- Christ concludes the sermon by saying that families will be split between those who follow of Christ and those who do not, He notes that people can interpret the signs of the weather but not spiritual things, and urges people to settle their debts while there is still time. (Luke 12:48-59)

1. What important question does the lawyer ask Jesus which prompts Him to tell the Parable of the Good Samaritan?
2. In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, what is the significance of the fact that the third man is a Samaritan?
3. What laws do we get from the parable of the Good Samaritan?
4. What were the names of the two sisters that were hosting Christ? Which one was cooking and which one was listening? Which one did Christ say had chosen the better thing?
5. What is significant about the fact that Jesus repeats the example prayer He had already given during the Sermon on the Mount?
6. What does Christ say about asking God for things?
7. Why do some consider it controversial for Christ to cast out a demon?
8. What does Christ say people are not with Him are?
9. What does Christ explain that people who hear the word should do?
10. What Old Testament prophet does Jesus use to prove preaching is sufficient, and signs aren't necessary?
11. What does Jesus say to rebuke the Pharisees?
12. What are a few of things Christ says frequently to remind his followers?
13. What parable does Christ tell about not being greedy?
14. What three things does Christ compare us to, to emphasize how much God cares about us?
15. What does Christ say treasures in heaven are immune from?
16. What parable does Christ tell about being prepared?
17. What parable does Christ tell to illustrate that to whom much is given, much is expected?
18. How does Christ conclude His sermon to the multitude?