



Hill Cliffe Study Guide Sunday 19 March 2023

1. What struck you most from Sunday's Sermon from Luke's Gospel?

Please read Luke 1.5-7; 1.46-50; 2.1-5; 3.1-2

2. How do these verses contrast the story and values of the world's history books with the story and values of God's Kingdom?

Please read Luke 14.12-14

3. How does Jesus' teaching about hospitality differ from society's convention?

Jesus' teaching shines a flashlight on society's conventional attitude to hospitality. It also shines a welcome sign for the hospitality of society's excluded – reflecting God's love for all.

4. What changes need to be made to your own attitudes and actions, so that you might more authentically reflect the love and hospitality of God in your relationships?

Please read Luke 22.66-71

5. How is Jesus' answer in v67-68 in keeping with the storyline of Luke's Gospel? How do Jesus' circumstances reflect the circumstances of millions of people throughout the world – then and today?

Please read Luke 23.38-43; Isaiah 42.3-4

6. How does this incident reinforce what Luke has been revealing about Jesus in his gospel?

In Conclusion...

*To follow Jesus' teachings in Luke's Gospel we are **confronted with our own prejudices** – conditioned by our society - against the poor and powerless, the weak, the refugees, the homeless, the unemployed, the addict, and the useless in the world's eyes. It claims they are unworthy, wasters, deserving nothing.*

7. What shapes your values in connection with the outsiders? – the world or Jesus?
Who's teaching are you following?

*To follow Jesus' teachings in Luke's Gospel we are **confronted with our own personal fears** – to be somebody in this world you have to avoid being a nobody. So, we strive and work and network and buy and carefully curate our social media and contacts and image in the hope that becoming a somebody – in the world's eyes – will satisfy the aching longing of our hearts for acceptance and belonging and self-worth and meaningful purpose.*

8. Does it?
What is Jesus' alternative? - **Please read Matthew 11.28-29; Matthew 16.24-26**
How is God speaking to you from this study? What do you need to do about it?