

Home Group Discussion Questions

Sunday January 9th

The Authority and Message of Jesus

Ice-breaker: How good are you at submitting to authority?

Or

What is one thing you would like to see God do in your life or the life of somebody dear to you this year?

Read the passage: Luke 4:31-44

Question: Was there anything that particularly spoke to you in the sermon this Sunday? Or that you disagreed with or were confused about?

A. Intro and Summary:

This Sunday we considered authority and in particular Jesus' authority as seen in Luke 4: 31-44. The three areas covered in the sermon were:

- (a) Jesus priority in teaching and preaching
- (b) The content of Jesus teaching – the kingdom of God
- (c) The authority of Jesus teaching.

(a) Jesus priority in teaching and preaching

Question: Jesus' words were spoken with conviction and authority. What was the source of Jesus' conviction and authority?

Question: Should we expect conviction and authority to attend bible teaching today? Does it? Why or why not?

[See John 14:12]

(b) The content of Jesus teaching – the kingdom of God

Quote: Tom said: *'The only heresy is to say that heresy can exist'*. This is the general opinion in today's postmodern culture; that absolute spiritual truth does not exist. How can we approach or tackle this issue with people who think like this?

Question: One aspect of the kingdom of God is Jesus' rule in our lives. Why are we told to submit to His kingly authority with the innocence of a small child and what might this look like in our lives?

[See Luke 17:21]

(c) The authority of Jesus teaching.

Question: Why do we often see Jesus' teaching accompanied by miracles? What does this teach us about God?

Question: How did Jesus treat the sick people he encountered that afternoon and evening in Capernaum? (Think about His care and attention & how he interacted with each one of them) What kind of example does that set for us to follow?

Question: Which was the more important motivator for Jesus: compassion or duty? Did they ever conflict?

Question: After this day you can understand that Jesus needed to go to a quiet place to recharge. But people came after him, asking him to stay. Considering the need to recharge: why is it so hard to maintain a Quiet Time? What have you found that enables you to set aside this time? Any tips to share with the rest of us?

[See James 5:17-18; Mark 1:35]