

Home Group Discussion Starter Questions **Luke 7:18-35**

Jesus and John the Baptist

Ice Breaker: who is the most memorable person you have met and how were they introduced to you?

Read the Passage: Luke 7:18-35

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

The points of the sermon were:

- When faith wobbles
- Taking offence at Jesus
- Children of the King, Citizens of the Kingdom

When faith wobbles:

Under the pressure of his circumstances, John is questioning who Jesus is (7:18-19).

Questions: Are there things that make you doubt or question your faith?

Do difficult circumstances drive you to God or away from him?
Why?

Can you give an example of a time when you went through difficult circumstances and it deepened your faith?

How do you handle doubts?

How can you help a friend who is struggling with doubts?

Jesus reminds John of Old Testament prophecies and how they are being fulfilled in his day: 7:22 'Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight (Is 35:5); the lame walk: (Is 35:6); lepers are cleansed: (Is 53:4); and the deaf hear: (Is 35:5); the dead are raised up (Is 26:19); and the poor have good news preached to them (Is 61:1).'

This would have meant something to John because he knew the prophecies.

How are you doing in growing in your knowledge of God's word?
Share as a group what helps you grow in this area.

Taking offence at Jesus:

On Sunday, we saw from the passage two reasons why people get offended at God: 1. We want a god after our own image; 2. We want God to dance to our tune.

Questions: Can you think of other reasons why people take offence at God?

How might getting offended by God show itself in a person's life?

What are the dangers of taking offence at God?

(You might consider Romans 1:18-32)

How can we know God as he really is?

How can we guard against picking and choosing what we do or do not want to accept about God?

Can you give an example of when God did not dance to your tune – and how did you deal with it, and grow through it?

Children of the King, Citizens of the Kingdom:

Read Luke 7:35

Questions: What do you think Jesus means that wisdom is justified by her children?

Why does Jesus being Messiah change everything?

Can you describe how encountering Jesus as Messiah has changed your life?