

Faith Promise Sunday
Sunday, February 15, 2009

day 1: (Luke 5:36-39) Jesus is only beginning his public ministry as he shares this parable. Why do you think he shares it? How is Jesus received by the religious establishment of his day? Jesus is challenging them to think about brand new things. Are you stuck in a rut with your spiritual thoughts? When was the last time you asked the Lord Jesus to teach you something brand new? Let's do so today.

day 2: (Luke 6: 12-16) Jesus makes important decisions in a very distinct manner. Notice that he has spent the night in prayer before selecting the 12 disciples. As in all things, he is our model in decision making. Are you following Jesus in this all-important way?

day 3: (Luke 7:1-10) Luke's gospel stresses that Jesus is contacted by this non-Jewish leader. It is important to see that Jesus' ministry is for everyone, regardless of nationality. But also important here is the lesson we learn from this centurion. Jesus declares that his faith exceeds anyone in all Israel. Do you believe the words of Jesus? Does your belief translate into obedience?

day 4: (Luke 8) This entire chapter is so important for Jesus' ministry. It contains some very memorable stories for us. Notice how Jesus is constantly on mission. He doesn't even wait until the crowds are completely gathered. He is always teaching and preaching and loving people. What is our mission? Isn't it the same as Jesus' mission? Are you eager, as he was, to never miss an opportunity?

day 5: (Luke 9:2 -36) It is so good for us to see the humanity of Jesus. We read about his tears and his hunger in the gospels. But in this passage, God does something extraordinary. He decides to show Jesus' closest companions a glimpse of the deity of Jesus. God pulled back the veil of Jesus humanity for only a moment and demonstrated the deity of his Son. This is the one we serve—the God/man. Human so that we can relate, yet divine so that he can save to the uttermost.

day 6: (Luke 10: 1-24) The harvest is plentiful. A few days ago while running through a neighborhood as I looked at all the houses, I sensed the Lord asking me, "Who will tell these people about me?" I was moved as I considered the lives represented by each of those homes. Who will tell all of those people about the hope that is found only in Jesus? Is it the church's job? Yes. And who is the church? You are...we are. The harvest is plentiful.