



PREPARING FOR THE KINGDOM

Learning to Listen to the King's Prophets

LUKE 7:24-28

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • April 5 & 6, 2014 • Gospel of Luke, week 51 • Msg. # 14-11

1. Understand _____ (vv.24-25)

24 When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? **25** What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. **26** What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **27** This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you." **28** I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."
(ESV)

2. Rightly _____ (vv.26-28a)

3. Keep _____ (v.28b)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Luke 16:14-15**. While, of course, not all of what people value is an "abomination in the sight of God," many things are – as the context highlights. What are some of the things that our present culture exalts and highly values which are an abomination to God, and that unfortunately become a temptation to many Christians?
2. Read **Psalms 50:17-21** and **Romans 2:4-5**. Note carefully what prompts the thought that God must be "like us" in Psalm 50:21. What does Romans 2 teach us about this?
3. Read **Jeremiah 5:30-31** and **6:13-19**. What does this teach us about people's preferences regarding preaching and teaching? How does "greed" (6:13) factor in to this problem?
4. Read **2 Timothy 4:1-5**. While you may not be a "career preacher" like Timothy, you do have a responsibility in the ministry of evangelism and discipleship. What aspects of this sobering commission apply to the way you go about that ministry?
5. Read **2 Timothy 2:15** and **3 John 4**. What motivations do we find in these texts for being faithful to the text in our evangelism and discipleship of others?

The CBC Bible Reading Schedule for this Week:

Go to ESV.org (Reading Plans: Through the Bible) for schedule prompts.

April 6th

Judg. 18-19 & Lk. 10:25-42

April 7th

Judg. 20-21 & Lk. 11:1-28

April 8th

Ruth 1-4 & Lk. 11:29-54

April 9th

1Sam. 1-3 & Lk. 12:1-34

April 10th

1Sam. 4-6 & Lk. 12:35-59

April 11th

1Sam. 7-9 & Lk. 13:1-21

April 12th

1Sam. 10-12 & Lk. 13:22-35

April 13th

1Sam. 13-14 & Lk. 14:1-24

The following related sermons are also available for free as mp3 downloads or audio streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

Msg. # 13-31 – **Learning from the Lord of Life**

Msg. # 05-28 – **Being Extra Careful to Always Take Hold of God's Truth**

Msg. # 11-27 – **The Centrality of Scripture & Expository Preaching**

Msg. # 04-21 – **Reaffirming God's Word as Our Ultimate Authority**

Msg. # 12-32 – **Luke: God's Diligent Student**

Msg. # 11-15 – **Making the Most of Daily Bible Study**

Msg. # 98-39 – **The Berean Balance: How to be Discerning without Being Paranoid**

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Adams, Jay E. **A Consumer's Guide to Preaching**. Victor Books, 1991.

Baxter, Richard. "Directions for Profitable Hearing" **A Christian Directory**. Soli Deo Gloria, 1996.

Carson, D. A. and John D. Woodbridge, eds. **Scripture and Truth**. Baker Books, 1983.

Fabarez, Mike. **Praying for Sunday: You, Your Pastor, and the Next Sermon**. Focal Point, 2009.

_____. **Why the Bible?** Focal Point, 2010.

Geisler, Norman & William Nix. **A General Introduction to the Bible, Revised & Expanded**. Moody Press, 1986.

Hendricks, Howard G. and William D. Hendricks. **Living By the Book**. Moody Press, 1991.

Lightner, Robert. **A Biblical Case for Total Inerrancy: How Jesus Viewed the Old Testament**. Kregel Publications, 1998.

Logos Research Systems. **Logos Bible Study Software**. (www.Logos.com).

MacArthur, John, Jr., Richard L. Mayhue, et al. "Epilogue: The Listener's Responsibility" in **Rediscovering Expository Preaching**. Word Publishing, 1992.

Mayhue, Richard. **The Healing Promise: Is It Always God's Will to Heal?** Mentor Books, 1997.

Ramey, Ken. **Expository Listening: A Handbook for Hearing and Doing God's Word**. Kress, 2010.

Saucy, Robert. **Scripture: Its Power, Authority, and Relevance**. Word Publishing, 2001.

Wilkinson, Bruce. **A Life God Rewards: Why Everything You Do Today Matters Forever**. Multnomah Books, 2002.