

Luke 10:17-24 The Lord's Prayers

Read Luke 10:17-24

17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" 18 He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. 19 See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." 21 At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 22 All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." 23 Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! 24 For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

- Read the passage through once
 - Keep a few moments of silence
 - Read the passage through again with different voices
 - Invite everyone to say a word or phrase which strikes them
 - Read the passage a third time
 - Share together what this word or phrase might mean (and what questions it raises)
1. In your prayers, do you ever burst out in spontaneous thanks and/or praise? Why? Why not?
 2. Why did Jesus burst out in spontaneous thanks?
Could this be something you do more often?

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3. In vv.17-20 Jesus tells his followers something *not* to rejoice about, and then something good to rejoice about. Why do you think it matters that we rejoice about helpful things and not unhelpful?
4. Look at the Lord's prayer. Would you say Amen to it?
[] loud amen [] middling amen [] small or nothing
5. Is it good that God hides things from intelligent people? Why? Why would God do that?
6. Is it good that our Father in heaven reveals himself only through his Son? Why? Why would God do that?
7. How are 5 and 6 connected? Is there a correlation?
8. Are you surprised/pleased/annoyed/bemused that Jesus chooses to work like this?
9. How privileged were those who were eyewitnesses to what Jesus did, and immediate hearers of what Jesus said? Are you pleased they passed it on?
10. From what Paul says in 1 Cor.1, would he have said Amen to Jesus' prayer?
25 For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. 26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, 29 so that no one might boast in the presence of God. 30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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