

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Luke 13:22-35

NARROW AND SOON SHUT DOOR



About this series: As we study Luke, we are walking through one of the most profound and transformative books in the entire Bible. In Luke, we see Jesus in new ways. We find a grace that reaches the outcast, a mercy that knows no bounds, a truth that challenges and restores, and a Savior who meets us where we are and calls us to follow Him.

Luke reveals the kingdom that comes through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It shows what it means to follow a Savior who turns expectations upside down, calling the humble, healing the broken, and welcoming the outsider. Luke invites us to be a people who carry the light of Christ, proclaiming good news to a world right where we are.

Goals of this week's discussion/ study:

In Luke 13:22-35, Jesus is confronted with a question about salvation: "Will those who are saved be few?" His response challenges our assumptions and calls us to consider our own position before God. Jesus speaks about a narrow door, a soon-to-be-shut door, and the urgency of making a decision to follow Him. This passage invites us to reflect on what it means to truly belong to God's kingdom.

Connections with the 7 Marks of a Jesus Follower

- Stand in Awe: Salvation is a gift from God, but the path to it is narrow and requires commitment.
- Grace and Truth: The invitation to enter through the narrow door is for everyone, but not all will accept it. Jesus speaks the truth in love, calling us to urgency.

Suggested Starter Questions

- Have you ever been in a situation where you realized you missed an important opportunity? How did that feel?



- What do you think Jesus meant when He spoke of a 'narrow door'?
- How do our cultural ideas of truth and inclusion contrast with Jesus' teaching in this passage?

Discussion

Read Luke 13:22-30

22 He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.'"

- What is the significance of Jesus using the word "strive" (Greek: *agonizomai*) when describing entering thru the narrow door?
- Why do you think Jesus doesn't directly answer the question about how many will be saved?
- How does this passage challenge a casual approach to faith?
- Have you ever felt like following Jesus required great effort or sacrifice? How so?

Read Luke 13:31-35

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." 32 And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. 33 Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.' 34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!"

- What does Jesus' response to the Pharisees tell us about His mission?
- How does Jesus' lament over Jerusalem show His heart for the lost?
- How does this passage impact the way we see those who have not yet put their faith in Christ?
- Do you share Jesus' sense of urgency for those who have not yet entered the narrow door? How might this change your actions this week?



Applying the Text

- What aspect of the teaching was most compelling to your life?
- What is God asking you to do with what you have learned?
- Who is someone you can share this message with this week?

Pray

- Pray for an urgency in our hearts to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.
- Ask for courage to share the gospel with those who have not yet entered through the narrow door.
- Pray for one another, that we would stand firm in our faith and not take our salvation lightly.

