

THE STORYTELLER

“The Lesson of the Fig Tree”

March 21, 2010

Luke 21:5-38 (ESV)

LG Study Guide

MY STORY

1. What makes you glad about the last days? What scares you?
2. If Jesus returned today, what would your response be?
 - () “Wait! I’m not finished with _____.”
 - () “I never thought this would really happen.”
 - () “This is my most embarrassing moment.”
 - () “I have fought the good fight and finished the race.”
 - () Other (name it)

DIGGING DEEPER

In this week’s parable, Jesus shows us how to keep a proper perspective on the end time. Read Luke 21:5-38.

1. Jesus’ prophecy of the destruction of Jerusalem and its temple demolishes the disciples’ expectation as to how they might gain political and religious power. What ideas or expectations do you have regarding the kingdom of God?
2. Describe the kinds of troubles that will take place (vv. 8-17).
3. What does Jesus want the disciples to gain from this teaching (vv. 8,9,14-19)?

4. Why are some Christians more concerned with signs than with Jesus’ instructions?
5. In verses 25-28 Jesus seems to give some final signs that will occur just before the return. How are these different from the activities in verses 10-11? (Recall also his word in Luke 17:19).
6. How is Jesus’ parable of the fig tree (vv. 29-31) related to his preceding teachings about his return in glory?
7. Jesus teaches us how to live in view of the coming events and intensifying troubles. Gather up his counsel and warnings (vv. 8, 9, 14, 28, 29, 34-36). Which particular warning grabs you? Why?
8. Which one of the his promises gives you strong incentive to be prepared for Jesus’ return (vv. 14-15, 19, 24, 31, 33)?

BRINGING IT HOME

1. Earthly preoccupation can make us insensitive to spiritual realities and therefore unprepared to “stand before the Son of Man” (vv. 5, 34-36). What earthly activity tempts you this way?
2. Please continue to share your blessings from your Life Journal devotionals.

** LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at www.ynccla.org.

** CDs of today’s message will be available next Sunday in the YNCC office. Previous weeks’ sermon CDs are also available in the office. All sermons are viewable online at www.ynccla.org/sermons.

