

Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

SSBC Luke Bible Study #62

Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.

Passage: Luke 17:3-10

Sermon Date: Nov 26, 2006

Forgiveness, Faith, Duty.

Imagine someone doing the same sinful thing to you seven times in one day, and coming to you and apologizing each time, sincerely conveying their intention to change their ways. How would you respond? Okay, let's try one that's really hard to honestly say we'd be gracious about: Imagine one person dangerously cutting in front of you on the highway seven times in one day ... !

Forgiving takes faith and, as servants of God, faith is our duty. As you begin this study, ask God for more faith, just as the disciples do in this week's passage:

"Increase our faith!"

Planning Note

There will be no Bible study written or distributed next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday, and because the corresponding sermon (on December 3) will be given by a guest preacher who will not be preaching from Luke 17. Small groups that don't meet the week of Thanksgiving might use this study for their meeting the following week.

These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and posting at www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact studieditor@southshorebaptist.com

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Thanksgiving:

1. One way to strengthen our faith is to focus on what God has already done. Before starting this week's study, take time out to recall some of the specific things you have to be thankful for. As you list some below, notice how much clearer God's grace, mercy, and might become in your sight. Our God is an awesome God. So give thanks.

Thank you, Lord, for ... _____

Bible Study:

2. Read this week's Bible passage and use the chart below to note your observations and any questions you have.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p>"If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. ⁴ If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him."</p> <p>⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"</p> <p>⁶ He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you.</p> <p>⁷ "Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? ⁸ Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"</p>	

3. Next, use this chart to **interpret some key observations**.

a. Select a few of your observations & questions from page 3 that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and interpret and apply them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

4. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- **S**ins to avoid
- **P**romises to believe
- **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- **C**ommands to obey
- **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them – listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

Dig These Topics:

5. REBUKE: (17:3) What does it mean to rebuke brother who sins against us? How should we do this? (Consider Mt 18:15-20, Gal 6:1-2)

6. FORGIVENESS: (17:4) Why should we forgive people who sin against us and then repent? (See Mt 6:12,14, Mt 18:21-35, Mk 11:25)

7. FAITH: (17:5-6) Why do you think the apostles responded as they did in verse 5? What is Jesus saying about the connection between our forgiving of others and our faith? (Note how another connection between forgiving and faith occurs in Mark 11:22-25)

8. DUTY: (17:7-10) Jesus portrays a servant who is expected to simply do his duty, as one unworthy of special treatment. Yet in other places in the scriptures Jesus tells us he no longer sees those who obey him as servants, but rather as friends (John 15:14-15). How do you reconcile these seemingly opposite ideas? What point is Jesus making in Luke 17:10 when he tells us that, after we've done what we've been told, we should say "We are unworthy servants"?

9. Luke 17:3-10 covers several distinct topics/themes. Let's use this opportunity to work on our ability to search God's Word to hear the whole of His teaching about a topic. Pick one of the following three topics to do a quick **Topical Study** about.

- a. Topic I'll Explore: **Duty, Faith, or Forgiveness of Sins.**
- b. What am I curious about regarding this topic? Why did I choose it?

Now look for other verses in the Bible that address these topics. A concordance or topical Bible is a big help here. A few excerpts from Nave's Topical Bible are provided on the next page. These lists of verses are sometimes long, so you may want to look at just a subset of them. But be sure to look at some from the OT and some from the NT.

- c. What does God's Word generally seem to say about this topic?
- d. What did I learn about God as I explored His Word about this topic?
- e. How does God want me to live my life related to this topic?
- f. How will I apply what I've learned about this topic?

Study Aid: **New Nave's Topical Bible** (3 excerpts)
(Swanson, J., & Nave, O. 1994)

DUTY. Of Mankind to God: Deut. 6:5; Deut. 10:12, 13; Deut. 11:1; Deut. 30:15–20; Josh. 22:5; Josh. 23:11; Psa. 31:23; Prov. 23:26; Matt. 4:10; Matt. 12:50; Matt. 22:21, 36–40; Luke 17:10; Luke 21:3, 4; John 4:34; John 6:38; John 14:15, 21; John 15:14; Acts 4:19, 20; Acts 5:29; Jude 21

DUTY, Of Person to Person: Lev. 19:18; Isa. 58:6, 7; Matt. 7:12; Matt. 25:34–46; Luke 10:25–37

FAITH. 2 Sam. 22:31; Psa. 5:11; Psa. 7:1; Psa. 9:9, 10; Psa. 18:30; Psa. 32:10; Psa. 33:18, 19; Psa. 34:8, 22 vs. 1–8; Psa. 2:12. Psa. 36:7; Psa. 40:4; Psa. 64:10; Psa. 78:7 vs. 5–7; Psa. 84:5, 12; Psa. 112:5, 7, 8; Psa. 118:8, 9; Psa. 125:1; Psa. 147:11; Prov. 3:5; Prov. 14:26; Prov. 22:19; Prov. 28:25; Prov. 29:25; Prov. 30:5; Isa. 10:20; Isa. 14:32; Isa. 26:3; Isa. 30:15; Isa. 57:13; Jer. 17:7, 8; Jer. 39:18; Nah. 1:7; Matt. 9:22; Matt. 21:21, 22; Mark 9:23, 24; Mark 11:23, 24; Luke 7:50; Luke 8:48–50; Luke 17:5; Luke 18:8; John 11:25–27; Acts 3:16; Acts 13:48; Acts 26:18; Rom. 1:16, 17; Rom. 4:1–25; Rom. 5:1; Rom. 9:31–33; Rom. 10:6–10; Rom. 11:20, 23; Rom. 15:13; 1 Cor. 1:21; 1 Cor. 2:5; 1 Cor. 12:8, 9; 2 Cor. 1:24; Gal. 3:1–29; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 2:8; Eph. 6:16; Col. 1:23; Col. 2:12; 1 Thess. 2:13; 1 Thess. 5:8; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Tim. 1:5, 19; 1 Tim. 2:15; 1 Tim. 4:10; 1 Tim. 6:11, 12, 17; 2 Tim. 4:7, 8; Heb. 4:1–11; Heb. 6:1, 7, 12, 18; Heb. 10:35, 38, 39; Heb. 11:1–3, 6; Heb. 13:5, 6; Jas. 1:6; Jas. 2:1–26; 1 Pet. 1:5, 7, 9, 21; 1 Pet. 3:5; 1 John 3:21; 1 John 5:4; Rev. 22:7

SIN, Forgiveness of: Ex. 34:6, 7 Num. 14:18. Lev. 4:20, 26 vs. 31,35; Lev. 5:10–13; Num. 15:25. Lev. 5:4–10; Num. 14:20; 2 Sam. 12:13; 1 Kin. 8:33, 34 vs. 22–50; Job 10:14; Psa. 19:12; Psa. 25:7, 11, 18; Psa. 32:1, 2, 5; Psa. 51:9; Psa. 65:3; Psa. 79:9; Psa. 85:2, 3; Psa. 99:8; Psa. 103:12; Psa. 130:4; Isa. 1:18; Isa. 6:6, 7; Isa. 43:25, 26; Isa. 44:21, 22; Isa. 55:6, 7; Jer. 2:22; Jer. 5:1, 7; Jer. 31:34; Jer. 33:8; Ezek. 33:14, 15 [Ezek. 18:21, 22.] Ezek. 33:16; Matt. 1:21; Matt. 6:12, 14, 15; Matt. 18:23–27; Matt. 26:28; Mark 2:5, 7 Matt. 9:2, 6; Luke 5:21, 24. Mark 3:28; Mark 11:26 Matt. 18:35. Luke 3:3 Matt. 3:6. Luke 24:47; John 8:11; John 20:23; Acts 2:38; Acts 10:36, 43; Acts 13:38, 39; Acts 26:16–18; Rom. 4:7, 8; Eph. 4:32; Col. 2:13; Heb. 8:12; Heb. 9:22; Heb. 10:2, 17, 18; Jas. 5:15, 20; 1 John 1:7, 9; 1 John 2:1, 2, 12; 1 John 5:16 Matt. 12:31, 32; Luke 12:10. Rev. 1:5