

Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Scripture: Luke 16:14-18



THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

We cannot justify ourselves before God by keeping his law nor by disregarding it; instead, we must accept God's grace and forgiveness granted to us through Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

1. Who were the Pharisees, and what was their position and influence in society? What did Jesus say that incited their ridicule (verse 14)?
2. "Religion can be highly profitable;" why is that? Where do we see signs of that today?
3. How did the Pharisees attempt to justify themselves? How do we do the same, and why?
4. What does this passage teach us about God and ourselves?
5. According to verse 15, what does God consider an abomination?
6. Who was John the Baptist, and what was his unique role in God's redemptive plan (verse 16a)? What has changed with John's passing and Jesus' arrival (verse 16b)?
7. How should we respond to the inauguration of the kingdom of God? What does it mean that "everyone forces his way into it [kingdom of God]" (verse 16)?
8. What does verse 17 teach us about God's Word? Discuss how God's law is still binding on followers of Jesus today.
9. How had the Pharisees undermined the law that they claimed to uphold (verse 18; Deuteronomy 24:1)?
10. Discuss how the gospel remedies our attempts at self-justification.