

GOSPEL OF LUKE WEEK 7

FLOURISHING GRACE SMALL GROUP CODE

Engagement:

Each person will get out of their small group what they put into the group. Make sure everyone in the group gets a chance to engage. If you tend to talk more than others be sensitive to how much you may dominate the conversation. If you tend to talk less make sure you work to speak up in your group. Your voice is valuable to others in your group and community; growth can't happen without engagement.

Confidentiality:

We long for our groups to be places of authentic community. The only way this happens is through vulnerable conversations in which we share personal parts of our lives and confess our sin together. Anything and everything that is shared in the group must stay in the group.

Speech:

We must fight against gossip, grumbling, and complaining. Our speech should build up our group not burden our group (Ephesians 4:29). We also must keep our conversation focused when our group meets. Groups gather to study the word and connect together please avoid personal rabbit trails or off topic subjects.

It takes more than one day and one person:

Small groups are about relationships. True relationships are not built by one person on one day a week. Step up to help your leader - they can't do it all alone. Everyone in the group should be serving the group - volunteer to host, volunteer to bring a snack, volunteer to give them a week off. Follow up and engage the members of your group during the week: one day a week does not build authentic community.

PRAY

Around the group have each person share one prayer request for the week.

Open a time of prayer inviting one person or the whole group (if they feel comfortable) to pray for those at Flourishing Grace considering being baptized in a few weeks.

BACKGROUND

Chapter nine in Luke represented a noticeable change in Jesus' ministry. He began speaking more openly about his own divinity as well as his reason for becoming human: to die on a cross then rise again in three days. In 9:51, Luke says Jesus sets "his face toward Jerusalem," meaning he began his final journey to the city where he knew he would be betrayed and condemned to death.

On the 100 mile or so journey to Jerusalem, Jesus will visit many towns, and he sends seventy-two of his followers ahead of him to the towns to prepare people to receive Jesus. While this specific mission occurred in a particular place at a particular time, it also stands as a continual mandate to go into places and introduce people to Jesus—whether those places be halfway around the world or in our own neighborhoods, workplaces, or homes.

OPEN

First, have a group member read **Luke 10:1-20**

Have you ever loved a restaurant so much that you continually told your friends they had to go there?

REFLECT

What specifically does Jesus tell the seventy-two to do?

How do you think the seventy-two felt about the task they had been given?

What do you think are some obstacles the seventy-two will face?

How are the seventy-two supposed to behave as they travel from town to town?

Many people would consider the kicking off of the dust from the seventy-two's sandals intolerant...do you agree or disagree with that thought?

Why does Jesus pronounce judgment on Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum?

What were the seventy-two's reactions to what they experienced?

APPLY

Is there anything in this story that makes you uncomfortable?

In what ways do you feel inadequate when it comes to telling people about Jesus? What does the text we just read have to say about that?

What in your personal story or your walk with Jesus do you think people could resonate with in a way that would help them consider following Jesus?

In what situations do you hold back from telling people about Jesus?

Where are the places God has already sent you to *right now* where you can introduce people to Jesus?

CLOSE

What is one thing in this passage that stuck out to you personally and why?

NEXT WEEK'S TEXT: Luke 11