

Study Guide for Sept. 15th, 2002. Series: Following Jesus. Luke 11:27-36 What Jesus Says About...

1. In this passage from Luke, Jesus makes use of conflict and opposition to reveal truth. When have you seen that to be true in your circumstances - that conflict leads to clarification of the truth?
2. True JOY (Luke 11:27-28)
 - A. What seems to be behind this unnamed woman's proclamation of blessing? (see Luke 1:48)
 - B. How does Jesus shift the focus? (see II Cor. 5:16)
 - C. What is the KEY to lasting JOY? (Try to commit vs. 28 to memory. See also James 1:22-25)
 - D. What helps you do both? (Hearing and putting into practice the word of God)
3. The SIGN (Luke 11:29-30)
 - A. How is Jonah **the sign** to authenticate Jesus' claims to his generation?
 - B. How is this truth reiterated by the words of Jesus in John 2:18-22?
 - C. Some people say that Jonah is just a story or myth (not historical). How would you respond to someone making that claim in light of Jesus using Jonah as **the sign** to authenticate his ministry?
 - D. Have you ever wished for some act of divine power to strengthen your faith? Did God grant it?
4. The WITNESSES (Luke 11:31-32)
 - A. Why does Jesus use the Queen of the South (see I Kings 10:1-13) to condemn his generation?
 - B. Why does Jesus use the men of Ninevah (see Jonah 3) to condemn his generation?
 - C. In what sense is Jesus **greater** than Solomon and Jonah?
 - D. When have you been **put to shame** by the faith of others who had **relatively less** than you?
5. The TRUTH (Luke 11:33-36)
 - A. How had Jesus just put the light, "...on a stand so that those who come in may see the light?"
 - B. What does Jesus say are the different results of having a **good** eye versus a **bad** eye?
(Note: **Good** has the meaning of single or healthy whereas **bad** has the connotation of evil.)
 - C. Rephrase Jesus' exhortation (vs. 35) in your own words. (How could light in you be darkness?)
 - D. What would a person whose body is **full of light** (vs. 36) look like?
 1. How does Paul's exhortation in Ephesians 5:8-14 complement what Jesus says here?
 2. Reflect on Psalm 119: 18 & 148 as prayers for additional light from God.