SESSION SIX

LUKE: PREPARE THE WAY

Bible study is not a class you take but a rhythm you keep as a believer.

HEAR THE WORD

Watch the Session 6. Take notes on overview of the book to use as you dive into personal study this week.

READ THE WORD

Read Luke 7:1-35 each day this week. Read at least three times from the ESV and read from other translations of your choosing on the remaining days. (You can find access to additional translations at <u>biblegateway.com</u> if you don't have physical copies of the Bible.) On two days this week, also read Matthew 11.

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And he answered them, Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them.

STUDY THE WORD

Pray and ask God to supernaturally help you retain what you have read through and learned as you answer the following questions:

- 1. Describe the faith of the centurion in this week's reading. How does it compare to your own?
- 2. If you have never lost someone close to you, think about someone you know who has. What would it mean to have a loved one return from the dead? We aren't told of the widow's reaction when Jesus brings her son back, but we can imagine it.
- 3. Have you ever considered that this picture of death-tolife happens every time someone decides to follow Christ? Whom do you know who needs to be raised from his or her trajectory to death?
- 4. Does it surprise you that John the Baptist questioned Jesus' claim to be the Messiah? Have you ever questioned Jesus? How does the passage make you feel?
- 5. Jesus makes this statement: "I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." Put this in context and explain what you think it means.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. The centurion who summoned Jesus was a Roman, a Gentile in a culture that pitted Jews and Gentiles against one another. Discuss how we can operate charitably in a culture that pits Christians against culture.
- 2. When Jesus performed miracles, as He did for the widow's son at Nain, it grabbed the attention of others. Share with the group some things God has done in your own life that others need to know.
- 3. John the Baptist was the one prophesied to "prepare the way of the Lord." This week, though, we read an account of his very personal questions/doubts. Invite those in your circle to be vulnerable with one another regarding your questions – and then spend time encouraging one another in truth and faith.
- 4. Discuss the meaning of "wisdom is justified by all her children" (verse 35) with your group. How have you seen this practically in your own life?