



friendship  
community church

Family Service

Luke 11:14-26

Week of December 1-7, 2019

Ask if there are any 45 Days of Faithfulness experiences they would like to share with the group.

This was the leading question - What is the one thing you could have, in your life or out of your life, that would make your life better?

"Now he was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first." Luke 11:14-26 ESV

Faulty logic - v. 14-20

- They accuse Jesus of casting out demons by the power of the devil. Sounds counterproductive.
- Jesus says why would the devil cast out his own?
- But if I am doing it by the finger of God, then the Kingdom of God is here.

Ask, When have you tried to use faulty logic to win an argument? (Most of the time we do this when we know we are beat but refuse to give it up.) More than likely they realized they were beaten but were hoping to sway the crowd to

A strong man and a stronger man - v. 21-23

The devil is the strong man here but a stronger man can remove him – Jesus.

Ask, Why is it that we are quick to hold on to things that are fleeting but are resistant to relinquish control to the Stronger Man? (Jesus)

One tormentor leaves, seven return - v. 24-26

Many believe that the seven here represents the totality of evil. Jesus takes their faulty logic and tries to help them understand that their choices actually cause them greater issues and concerns. Instead of making things better by their own choices, they are actually increasing the travail. The same is true for us when we insist on our own way of doing things, rather than trusting Christ.

Refer back to Luke 8:1-2 - Mary Magdalene had 7 evil spirits cast out and Mary followed. This is a possible reference to what Jesus was speaking of here in Luke 11.

Jesus is giving them a warning here.

What is the one thing you could have, in your life or out of your life, that would make your life better?

A couple of questions to reflect on –

If I could just get this . . . my life would be better?

If I could just get rid of this . . . my life would be better?

The devil is a strong man but Jesus is the stronger man. What is it that you need to let go of and let Jesus be the stronger man in your life?

Too many times we confuse wants with needs. What might be a want that you have confused with a need in your life?

The one thing you need needs to be stronger than the other things.

Anything other than Christ is never enough.

Place your hope in the Strongest!

Take time to share prayer requests and spend time praying for one another.

Encourage each other to continue to participate in the 45 Days of Thankfulness.