



WEEKLY STUDY

The New Life Possible Mindset - Week Three

We are tracking the mindset of Jesus through Luke 12-14. He was moving towards Jerusalem and getting his disciples ready for the days ahead. This week we witnessed baptisms and recommitments of those saying yes to Jesus. It was beautiful. Baptism is an outward response to the grace and forgiveness received through repentance. Regardless of the situation you find yourself in, turning away from sin and towards God is the path to life!

Peace of Christ,
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from your own daily reflections and consider the Group Discussion questions below.. If you would like to get connected visit prov.church/smallgroups.

DAILY STUDY

MONDAY: LUKE 13.1-5 (ESV)

There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

- Jesus was told about a recent event in which the Roman rulers slaughtered Galileans. They were having trouble drawing meaning from such a horrific event. This is the only account of this historic event. In their day, like in our own, such brutality was not an uncommon occurrence. It didn't even make the history books. Yet those questioning Jesus wondered if those who died were worse sinners than those who lived. Their question revealed a lot about how they viewed God. Distant and transactional. Jesus squashes that mentality but calls them to pay attention to the sin in their

own lives. To search their own hearts and repent. Are you tempted to focus on the sins of others and therefore ignore your own? What would change in the world around us if we each felt sorry for our own actions or inactions?

- **Prayer Prompt: There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him:**
 - ¹⁷ haughty eyes,
a lying tongue,
hands that shed innocent blood,
 - ¹⁸ a heart that devises wicked schemes,
feet that are quick to rush into evil,
 - ¹⁹ a false witness who pours out lies
and a person who stirs up conflict in the community. (Proverbs 6.16-19)
- *God, you delight not in violence and retribution but in every heart that repents and turns towards you. I turn towards you today. Away from sin and towards new life in you. Amen.*

TUESDAY: LUKE 12.35-40 (ESV)

- *Jesus addressed another recent tragedy in the city. The tower of Siloam was near a reservoir in the Southeastern part of Jerusalem. Apparently it had fallen and people were killed. Thousands of years later, we travel up in high, man-made towers giving little thought to their sturdiness...until we watch images of one or two falling to the ground. There is an opportunity for adjustments when the things we trust in fail. Out of tragedy can come repentance. Life is short, change directions. Are there signs in your own life that you are headed in the wrong direction? Offer your repentance to God and turn towards the life God offers you in Christ.*

- **Prayer Prompt: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (Psalm 23.4)**

- *Lord, you are with us in times of triumph and times of tragedy. Give me a contrite heart that I might honor you with my life. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY: LUKE 13.1-5 (ESV)

- In baptism, we are asked the question, Do you repent of your sin? It's a short question that requires a short answer, but it indicates a complete change—a desire for total transformation. The one being baptized recognizes that he or she can not bring about their own salvation. The starting place is saying, *I am in need of something that I can not provide. I need help to change, and so I turn away from sin and towards Jesus.* Can you make that your prayer in the space below?

- **Prayer Prompt: The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3.9)**
- *God, I am in need of something that I can not provide. I need help to change, and so I turn away from sin and towards Jesus. Amen.*

THURSDAY: LUKE 13.1-5 (ESV)

- Repentance is an inner change that is marked by an outward act in baptism ([Acts 2.38](#)). Several things are true about baptism. We know from New Testament teaching and the example of Jesus that the Spirit of God is present in baptism. Whether or not we are tuned in and feel the Spirit's presence, it is there. And just as with Jesus, the Spirit empowers us into the ministry we are called to. Each follower of Jesus is a minister of Gospel in one way or another. Have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit? Do you have a sense of the type of ministry God has called you to and empowers you for?

- **Prayer Prompt: But as for me, I am filled with power,
with the Spirit of the LORD,
and with justice and might,
to declare to Jacob his transgression,
to Israel his sin. (Micah 3.8)**

- *Jesus, when you received the Spirit in your own baptism, it led you to a time of wilderness preparation. I want to be open to the guidance of the Spirit today. Amen.*

FRIDAY: LUKE 13.1-5 (ESV)

- In every baptism, there has been at least one person who has helped get to the water (usually many more than one). If you have not been baptized, who do you think might be willing to help you to the waters? If you are baptized, who was a part of carrying you to the waters of baptism? List the people who have been a part of your story of faith.

- **Prayer Prompt: “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”**

⁸ Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” ⁹ At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. (John 5.7-9)

- *God, thank you for each and every person who helps me along this journey of following Jesus. Some led me to the water, others reminded me of what you say in baptism. I am your child whom you love. Amen.*

SATURDAY: LUKE 13.1-5 (ESV)

- Confession of Jesus as Lord leads to great rejoicing...on earth and in heaven ([Luke 15.7](#)). How does your daily life serve as a confession that Jesus is Lord? What opportunities do you have to confess him with your mouth? Who needs to hear your confession? How do you picture the rejoicing that takes place in heaven when one person declares that Jesus is Lord?

- **Prayer Prompt: there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. (Luke 15.7)**
- *God, I confess that Jesus is Lord. Make my life a living confession. Give me words to share and eyes to see those who need to hear. Amen.*

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Share your story of repentance. When have you changed directions in life in order to be faithful to God?
- Share a baptism story (your own or someone else's). Or watch the baptism portion of Sunday's service at Providence. Where did you see God moving?
- How does the hope you have in Jesus impact the way you walk through difficult times?
- Give God thanks for all of the big and small ways that God is moving in your life right now.