



Introduction

This is a short series leading up to Easter and reflecting on the theme of 'lostness' in the Gospels. Jesus taught that he came 'to seek and save the lost' (Luke 19:10). These two stories help us to reflect on what that means, and how we might develop the same kind of heart for those who need to know God.

Each week we have also included a reflective reading to do, the stories of the crucifixion and the resurrection. Read those passages just with an open heart to anything God might be saying to you, and reflecting on whether there is anyone he is calling you to pray for.

1. To Seek and Save the Lost: Luke 19:1-10

1. Can you remember a time when you were lost? How did it feel?
2. Have you ever had a family member or friend who went missing and took time to find? What did you do?
3. Describe Zaccheus to each other. What kind of person was he?
4. Why might Zaccheus have been so keen to see Jesus?
5. How did Jesus respond to Zaccheus? What might have drawn his attention to him?
6. Why did people grumble about Jesus going to Zaccheus' house as a guest? What did Jesus say in response?
7. What did Zaccheus do in response to Jesus' visit?
8. What does it mean to be 'saved'? Why does Jesus need to 'seek' the lost?
9. Do you have a tendency to 'write people off' as not being worth your (or God's) time and energy? What might cause us to feel this way?
10. How might we learn to see the 'lost' in the same way that Jesus did?

The Crucifixion

Read the story in Luke 23:32-43

- a) What stands out to you in this passage?
- b) Is there anyone that you know who is 'lost', and that God is putting on your heart to pray for?

2. Weeping Over the Lost: Luke 19:28-44

1. What are some of the different ways that you have seen people respond to Jesus?
2. Why was the crowd in this story so pleased to see Jesus?
3. Read Psalm 118:26-27. Why would they be quoting this Bible verse?
4. Why did the Pharisees want Jesus to rebuke his disciples? Why did he respond the way that he did?
5. Read Zechariah 9:9-10. Why did Jesus choose to enter Jerusalem in the way that he did?
6. Why did Jesus weep over Jerusalem in vv41-44?
7. Do you feel a sense of sadness about those who reject Jesus?
8. What might help us to develop a greater compassion for the lost people that we know?

The Resurrection

Read the story in Luke 24:1-12

- a) What stands out for you in this passage?
- b) Is there anyone that you know who is 'lost', and that God is putting on your heart to pray for?

Notes