

Scripture and Background Information for March 22-28

The Unanswered Questions of Jesus

The accounts of Jesus' life are filled with stories, parables, sayings, sermons, and miracles. They're also filled with questions – not just the questions people asked Jesus. They're filled with questions Jesus asked the people who were deciding whether or not to follow Him. During this series, we'll look at the questions Jesus asks, consider their relevance, and challenge ourselves to find answers to the things about us and within us that Jesus wants to know.

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

Since this week is quite long, write out some details that you'll need to retell the story in the **GOD'S WORDS** section. Then in the **MY WORDS** section, retell the story in your own words.

Background for Luke 10:23-28

In verses 23-24, Jesus reminds the disciples of the privilege that they have in being able to understand what they are witnessing. Unlike the lawyer (scribe or keeper of Jewish law) they are about to encounter; the disciples get it. They have an ability to see!

In verse 25-28, in this familiar set-up to the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus shares the entire message of the Gospel in just a few short sentences. Confronted with the question of what it *takes* to inherit eternal life, Jesus reminds the man that he already knows. Jesus points him back to scripture. "Do and live" is the message of the entire Old Testament Law. However, since no person can obey perfectly the impossible demands of the law, the law is meant to drive us to seek Jesus and His ability to keep the law.

This man should have responded with a confession of his own guilt rather than a self-justification. His confession of his inability to follow the law perfectly would have brought him to the point that Jesus needed this man to be. But unlike the disciples, this man could not see his own need. What does scripture say? Scripture says that we can't do it on our own. But that Jesus has already done it on our behalf if we have faith. This question, like all in this series should guide our lives so that in any circumstance we always will be people who hold up the Scripture and evaluate all we do in life in light of it.

Scriptures for the upcoming weeks:

March 29

John 6:64-69

April 5

Matthew 16:13-17