

10/18/20

Recap of 10/11/20 message (Joe Ricchuiti – Luke 17:1-10):

1. Jesus' parable in Luke 17:7-10 is linked to Jesus' teaching in 17:1-4 about the danger of causing others to stumble in their faith and the need for forgiveness of those who offend and later repent. The disciples stunned by Jesus' teaching on unlimited forgiveness, ask for more faith.

- "In other words, His disciples should be ready always to forgive. He does not say that the one who offends should not be rebuked. He should be made to appreciate his fault, but when he sincerely repents, he should be forgiven, even if he repeats his sin over and over." (McGee)

2. That leads to Jesus teaching the parable of the master and his servant in vv. 7-10. While there are many ways this parable is understood, the context points to the need for obedience as the point of the parable. The disciples were asking for more faith, and Jesus seems to be saying that faith is not the issue, obedience is.

- "And yet, as He teaches them, it is not faith they require so much as obedience." (Gray)

- "Jesus' response can be paraphrased, 'Faith is fine for moving mountains, but I told you to confront and forgive.'...How often we cry out for more faith, when all that is really necessary is obedience to the commands of our Lord....All too often we use our 'lack of faith' as an excuse. 'If only I had more faith, I'd speak out at work. 'If only I had more faith, I'd give what I believe God wants me to give.' 'If only I had more faith, I'd go to this person who has hurt me.' Faith is important in the Christian life. But faith is not substitute for obedience. Each of us needs to carefully examine his or her life and become aware that the real issue in many a Christian's life is not that he fails to believe, but that he fails to obey." (Richards)

"How Much is Enough?"

Luke 12:13-21

October 18, 2020 – Joe Ricchuiti, Senior Pastor

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