



The Gospel of Luke – Baptism

Date: Sunday 29th July 2018

Speakers: Tony Bunker, Oliver Nyumbu

Key Verses: Luke 5:27-32, Luke 19:1-9

Summary

- Jesus is always interested in everyone, no matter who they are, what they've done, no one is excluded - even tax collectors, the lowest of the low.
- The power of Christ and the operation of the Holy Spirit is so strong that it can radically change lives
- No one is beyond the power and love of Jesus to make them whole, but also there is no one who does not need the power and love of Jesus to make them whole
- Jesus wants an intimate, close relationship with us, this is what the talk about eating together means
- He also wants us to develop relationships with others where we can share lives, be real, show them Jesus, and ultimately give them the opportunity to be restored to God.
- Eating together is a powerful, practical way in which we can help build these relationships, let's look at how to create spaces for this to happen
- There are opportunities already existing to get involved with eg Reach Out Network works with vulnerable people in Ladywood, see Paul Atkin or Nathan or Becky Green if you want to get involved
- Keeping the tension between 'eating and drinking with sinners' and calling them to repentance needs wisdom and grace, and in particular the power of the Holy Spirit.

Small Group Questions

- What do you think Levi saw in Jesus to make him take the amazing decision to leave everything to follow him?
- What are the influences on us to make us think like the Pharisees, putting people into categories based on whether we think they are basically OK or not?
- What one practical thing am I going to do to share more of my life with people who don't yet know Jesus?

To ponder or pray about this week...

Pray for opportunities to easily and naturally develop a new or deeper relationship with someone who is yet to meet Jesus. Ask for the Holy Spirit to guide you as that relationship progresses.