

cell meeting notes

A meeting of your cell community has four connected elements – **Welcome, Word, Worship, Witness.**

Luke 11v1-12v12: Authentic Spirituality comes to those who ask

Theme Sentence– Authentic Spirituality comes to those who ask, so ask & repent.

Life-Changing Aim(s) – That non-Christians in the cell would repent and ask for the Holy Spirit. That we'd all acknowledge the Son and not pursue hypocritical religion.

Welcome (10mins) – Welcome people to cell. Remind them that this is a meeting of the **Christian Union** which is a **Mission Team** on campus seeking to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Remind people that cell is every week – meeting for 90mins as a support base for each other in doing mission together. This is your first proper cell meeting – **delegate a 2nd year to do a fun icebreaker that helps people get to know each other.** Pray as you begin.

Word (*40mins*) – Read Luke 11v1-12v12 (read in **sections** – ask for three volunteers)

If we asked people we know, “**what kind of people are “spiritual”?**” what answers might we get?

11v1-13 Ask!

What are the priorities of the prayer in v1-4?

What is the point Jesus makes in v9-10?

(Illustrated in v5-8)

To receive the Holy Spirit, in Luke, is the same as to receive life/Jesus. What does v11-13 show us about how to get eternal life? (fitting with 10v21-42)

11v14-36 Wrong Religion

v14-16, what two ways do the Jews attack Jesus?

17-28, how does Jesus respond to the 1st attack?

29-36, how does Jesus respond to the 2nd attack?

11v37-12v12 True Religion

What does Jesus criticize the Pharisees for in 39-44?

What is wrong with these things? How are the Pharisees hypocritical?

What does Jesus mean when he says everything will be made known – v2-3? When?

Who should be feared by Jesus' disciples? V4-8 Why?

What does fear involve? V8-12

What will it mean to acknowledge Jesus?

Summary

How do you get eternal life?

What stops people from getting eternal life?

What ways might we be pursuing “false religion”?

How might we fear people rather than God?

How will we develop true religion in our lives?

Worship (10mins) – Turn your understanding in the **word** into God-centred adoration! Our first priority is to glorify God. Reflect together. In song, prayer or other creative ways. **[Cell Leader should delegate this in advance]**

Witness (*30mins*) – The Christian Union is a Mission Team. That mission works out in the academic, residential and social communities of the University. **Eternal life comes by Asking! How can we share this with others (practical/specific)? Pray for yourself and for others.** .

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

REMIND PEOPLE AT THE END ABOUT **THE NEXT CELL MEETING** AND ABOUT **THURSDAY'S CENTRAL CU MEETING.** AGREE TO GO TOGETHER. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE **CONTACT DETAILS** FOR EVERYONE ARRANGE TO **MEET** SOCIALLY DURING THE WEEK.

Next Week >
Luke 12v13-13v21

word notes

Luke 11v1-12v12

This passage again has some really familiar content. Again there is a lot to see – so you can't look at everything.

1-13. Jesus is talking about prayer but more is in view. Jesus is again spelling out what it means to have eternal life. The portion of the Lord's prayer here is a thoroughly God-dependent prayer.... Asking, For God's name to be honoured... God's kingdom to come... for God to provide... for God to forgive... And Jesus assures us that God will answer. A friend would respond in time. God will certainly respond, and give good gifts. In fact – if we ask our Father he will give us the Holy Spirit.

*The Holy Spirit. In 10v21 Jesus' rejoiced in the Spirit, and in 12v10 is the warning against blaspheming the Spirit, and 12v12 assurance that the Spirit will give us the Words to say. Having the Holy Spirit, in Luke's writings, is the same as knowing Jesus. As Luke shows us at Pentecost, from Joel, **getting the Holy Spirit means getting eternal life.** So when Jesus says – ask and you'll get the Holy Spirit he is talking about getting eternal life. When he says denying the Spirit is deadly – its an eternal life issue. And when he says the Spirit will give you the words to say – it's because you know Jesus.*

14-36. This next section has to do with wrong religion. After this Jesus will teach about true religion. The people do two things. First they say Jesus works by the devils power. Second they say that he should provide a sign for them.

To the first Jesus shows the folly of this. Satan wouldn't turn on satan.... And besides Jesus is only doing what they do. God's kingdom is coming to them. One woman misses the point entirely in v28-28. She says "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed". Jesus silences her: No! Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. Don't worship his mother. Hear Jesus and respond.

This takes us to the second issue. Jesus teaches the Sign of Jonah. This is his standard response to those who seek signs. And it is terrific! Their sign seeking shows how evil they are. Evil Nineveh – had only the Sign of Jonah... they have the Son of Man who is greater than Jonah. The Queen of the South came to Solomon... they have the Son of Man, wiser than Solomon. Nineveh and the Queen of the South judge them for their sign-seeking. Those people repented when they saw the work of God. Forget your sign seeking. **REPENT! Ask Jesus for life!**

37-12. True religion. We find Jesus at dinner with the religious. They take offense at him, and he pronounces great woes upon them. Woe to them for their hypocrisy – clean on the outside only. Woe to them for their religion misses the point. Woe to them for leading others into sin (44 – unmarked graves, defile those who walk over them). Woe to them for burdening others... prophet killers, opponents of God. Do they repent? No, 54, they try to catch him out and trap him. But... the truth will be revealed (2). Don't fear men however, fear God! God has the power to give and take life, not men. Fear God. Trust God. Don't speak against God (9), but acknowledge him (8), he will sustain you and teach you (12). Those who get eternal life accept the gift of the Holy Spirit, those who refuse eternal life reject the Holy Spirit. So ASK JESUS for Life!

Authentic Spirituality doesn't have to defend itself, it admits sin and asks Jesus for Life! God will give forgiveness of sin. Authentic Christians are not "hypocritical saints", they are "forgiven sinners" who simply ask Jesus for life.