

# cell meeting notes

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

## Luke 13v22-14v35 Authentic Spirituality is for the Humble

**Theme Sentence**– Authentic Spirituality is for the Humble

(Summary – what everyone goes away knowing)

**Life-Changing Aim(s)** – That we humbly seek Jesus, counting the cost, and going on his terms not ours.

(A faith activity– what do you want to see God to do in your cell members lives)

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> year to do a fun icebreaker that helps people get to know each other.** Pray as you begin.

**Word (\*40mins\*)** – Read Luke 13v22-14v35 (read in **sections** – ask for three volunteers)

What does it mean to achieve “true greatness” **14v7-24**

– for us, for our friends...?

### 13v22-30

- \* **vv24-25**, What are the main points Jesus' makes in answer to the question in v23?
- \* **vv28-30**, Who gets eternal life? What doesn't qualify?

### 13v31-14v6

- \* What are the pharisees trying to do?
- \* What does Jesus say about Jerusalem?
- \* How does this clarify 13v30?
- \* Why is Jesus going to Jerusalem?

\* What is Jesus point when he talks about seating arrangements? (see v11)

\* What does this teach about who gets eternal life?

\* What is wrong with the excuses people make?

\* What does this parable teach about the availability of eternal life?

### 14v25-35

\* Jesus uses two illustrations to make a point – what's the point? What does this teach us about who gets eternal life, and how?

\* **Summarise** What is Jesus' message about the nature of **authentic spirituality**?

\* How can we develop humility in the cell community?

\* How does this affect our message to the world?

**Worship (20mins)** – 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 (20mins)** – The Christian Union is a Mission Team. That mission works out in the academic, residential and social communities of the University. Take time to pray for your friends, for opportunities to witness is course, corridor and clubs.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

REMINDE 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 15v1-15v16**

# word notes

## Luke 13v22-14v35

Our journey with Jesus into the nature of Authentic Spirituality continues. Now we're confronted with the nature of true greatness... in a radical confrontation with religious pride and selfish ambition Jesus redefines what it means to be great. To follow him will mean being last, being humbled. And ironically this will in fact entail great gain – great exaltation for us. We're warned to make sure we know what we're getting into, but the rewards are infinite.

**13-30.** Luke again shows us Jesus interacting with people on the road. Here, as he goes along teaching, someone asks him a question – “are only a few going to be saved”

Jesus turns a potentially academic question back on those listening. “make every effort to enter” his words are urgent. A plea for them to respond to what they've heard. Urgent because, “many will try... and will not be able to”. Many will find themselves unexpectedly locked out of life. Cut off from the world that was made for them.

They'll be able to plead their encounters with Jesus. They saw him in the crowd. But they must be known by Him, not just know him. In a celebrity age we're so clearly aware of this. It is not the same to know lots about someones life as it is to actually know them.

There will be much misery and anger when people are locked out of life – Abraham will get life, so too Isaac and Jacob, and the prophets... but many will not. Even large numbers from the nations... but not those who expected it as their birthright. Those who look like the last candidates for life will gain it... those who look the greatest will be locked out of life.

**31-35.** Jesus continues to walk towards his death... and the Pharisees approach him to warn him of the danger he faces from Herod. But Jesus is steadfast they will not keep him from his business. They want to stop him from preaching, but he knows what his life is about. He knows why he entered this world. He has come and will go to his death in Jerusalem. It must be that way. For Jerusalem kills the prophets – those who will inherit life, killed at the hands of many who will be locked out of life. Who will see him?

**1-24.** Luke moves us on again. And we find Jesus on the Sabbath, in the house of a prominent Pharisee. They plot to kill him. The self-exalters have been warned, yet still Jesus will go to them. They watch him carefully, watching for any kind of mistake. A sick man comes to Jesus – Jesus asks the Pharisees, the experts, would it be unlawful to heal the man... they are silent, and so Jesus heals him. Jesus asks them again – would you pull your ox out of a well on the Sabbath... they have nothing to say.

They simply seek high places for themselves – but Jesus warns them to humble themselves... they can be exalted later... but if they remain proud they will be moved down. True greatness will be about humility. That will be the mark of authentic spirituality.

The conversation continues at the table. Jesus is acknowledged for his fine words – blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God. What an image of life – a great banquet, guests of King Jesus. And Jesus replies. True. Jesus tells of how many will be invited. And then they will be called to come and take their place at the table... but respond only with empty excuses. Trivial. Stupid. Nonsensical. For there is no good reason to turn down a place at the banquet. And so, in their absence the low-life will be brought in. The unexpected welcomed. And the first invited people will be left outside.

**25-35.** All of a sudden Luke takes us back out on the streets with Jesus. Jesus tells the crowds around him of the cost of truly following him. V28-30 spell it out in the language of building – check you can afford to build before you lay foundations, or 31-32... before going to war, check you can win... else seek peace. If costs the world to follow Jesus... make sure you're prepared to pay the price. But know that it is worth paying! Don't just start well – continue to the end!

And the assurance flows through these incidents. Those who leave everything for Jesus will gain life. True Greatness – Humility! Authentic Spirituality is for the Humble.