

WEEK 15:

# JESUS AND OUR DREAMS

## PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 7:18-35

## RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Isaiah 6, Matthew 13:20-22, Luke 3:18-20,  
John 1:24-34, Acts 14:21-22

It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege. Anxiety, sickness, suffering, or danger now and then with a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities of this life, may make us pause and cause the spirit to waver and the soul to sink; but let this only be for a moment. All these are nothing when compared with the glory which shall be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice.

- David Livingstone

If you live gladly to make others glad in God, your life will be hard, your risks will be high, and your joy will be full.

- John Piper

## PERSONAL STUDY:

What are your dreams and goals in life? How would your life play out, if it played out exactly the way you hoped?

**Read Luke 7:17-19, 3:18-20 and John 1:24-34.** Why does John the Baptist send his disciples to ask Jesus if he's the one they've been waiting for? What are his circumstances? When have circumstances caused you to question Jesus?

**Read Luke 7:20-23, Isaiah 35:4-6 and 61:1.** Which of the prophecies in Isaiah does Jesus demonstrate as confirmation for John? Which one does he leave out that would have been of personal assurance to John? What does Jesus mean when He says "Blessed is the one who is not offended by me"?

**Read Acts 14:21-22.** Paul encourages the believers that "through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." Why? What does God accomplish through our tribulations?

**Read Luke 7:24-30.** Is there any indication that John's suffering is based on something he did wrong? How does John's life contradict the false idea that if we live rightly for God our lives will go the way we want?

**Read 1 Peter 3:8-18.** What was accomplished through Jesus' pain? Is it fair that God advancing His kingdom may not include giving you the life circumstances you want or accomplishing your dreams? Why is this hard to accept?

## SERMON NOTES:



## LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

Have you ever doubted Jesus because He didn't help you accomplish your personal dreams or goals?



**Read Luke 7:20-23.** Jesus is always capable of fixing our painful circumstances but doesn't always choose to do so. What makes it so hard for us to wrestle with this reality?

Jesus tells John's disciples: "Blessed is the one who is not offended by me." What are the underlying beliefs in our hearts when we are offended by Jesus not fixing our circumstances?



When you are doing well or accomplishing things for Jesus do you find yourself believing that He owes you good circumstances? What does this reveal about your motives?

**Read 1 Peter 3:8-18.** How do Jesus' accomplishments on the cross inform our view of suffering? How does the gospel redeem suffering that often feels pointless?

Are there any dreams or goals God is calling you to forsake in order to free up time, energy and space to serve Him?

