

Luke 13: 1-17



Discuss a selection of the following questions.

Getting Started

1. Have you ever had a habit that you found hard to change?

The text

Read Luke 13:1–5.

2. Why do people try to connect individual sin with tragedy and injustice?
3. What might tragedy and injustice make us realise about ourselves?

Read Luke 13:6–8.

4. What might the fig tree represent? Is there any significance in the three years and the one extra year?
5. How does the parable connect with the story Luke is telling about Jesus?
6. How does it relate to 2 Peter 3:9?

Read Luke 13:10–17.

7. Trace the images of bondage and freedom in the way Luke tells the story. How does it relate to Luke 4:18–19?
8. Why do Jesus and the synagogue leader view the Sabbath differently?
9. Why does Jesus especially name the woman as a daughter of Abraham?
10. What's important in the way Luke concludes this episode (verse 17)? What overall impression do you get of Jesus in Luke 13:1–17?

Going wider

11. How do Job's friends illustrate Jesus' concerns in Luke 13:1–5?
12. Fill out the parable of the fig tree by considering Isaiah 5:1–7, Micah 7:1–7 and Mark 11:13–21.
13. The OT presents the Sabbath as a day of blessing (Gen 2:2) and provision (Exodus 16:11–36). How are these themes present in Luke 13:10–17?

Our lives

14. Repentance can mean moving from sentences that start with 'I can't...couldn't...don't' to sentences that begin with 'I can choose'. What are some of your default negative statements? How can you leave them behind? What practices in your life foster self-awareness and change? What might God be asking you to repent of?
15. When people are with you, do they experience bondage or freedom?
16. What is it about Jesus that you find delightful?