

THE HEART OF THE MATTER DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

LUKE 5:33-6:11

1 In Luke 5:33-6:11 we read of Jesus making a couple different deity claims. Look back over the verses. How does Jesus claim to be God in this passage?

🌀 Read the following verses and discuss the significance of Jesus' claims: Isaiah 54:5-8; Daniel 7:13-14; Hebrews 9:11-14. What is significant about this imagery?

🌀 What do these claims mean for your life? How do they affect your week? Which is most impactful for you and why?

2 Our passage showcased the Pharisee's heart and their tendency to complicate & corrupt what God had commanded. See also Matthew 6:1, 6:16; Luke 18:9; Luke 10:29. What indicators might reveal that someone views their relationship with God without a correct understanding of the gospel of grace?

♥ How can Christians be tempted to use the law or their own traditions to limit the need to love and serve someone else?

♥ Think of your own tendencies toward judgmentalism. What areas of life are you most judgmental of other people?

♥ What does God require in us when it comes to following His laws and ways? 1 Samuel 16:7; Ps 33:13-15; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5; Proverbs 29:25

3 How should a Christian view fasting today? How do Jesus' words in Luke 5:35 shape your understanding of fasting?

⚙️ *Fasting, as understood in the context of Israel's Day of Atonement was about dissatisfaction with sin, grieving sin and looking forward to the Messiah's deliverance? How may this be appropriate/not appropriate for Christians today?*

⚙️ *In his book, Hunger for God, John Piper says that Christians have a "fasting that is feasting." Why would this be? How would this change our outlook on fasting?*

⚙️ *Read Matthew 6:16-18. How do Jesus' words shape our practice of fasting today?*

4 In finding correct rhythms of work and rest, what side of the coin do you find you most naturally land on? Do you struggle to work well, rest well, or some other combination?

⚙️ *How does the gospel change our view of work, accomplishment, achievement, and success?*

⚙️ *What Bible verses should inform us on physical rest, time off and recharging worship?*

⚙️ *What things (readings, songs, relationships, events, experiences, etc) fuel you in your down-time, to live your next few days working well for the glory of God?*

5 In Luke 5-6, we read of Jesus' heart of compassion. Discuss the various groups in Luke 5 & 6 that Jesus loved. Who else was outcast that Jesus cared for during his earthly ministry? What stands out to you about how Jesus interacts with the outcast?

⚙️ *Discuss areas within our community and church where you can show a heart of compassion to the needy. It could be Good News Jail ministry (Nic Higgins) or Pregnancy Resource Center (Raphael Almeida & Cecilia Rollett). Or it could be serving as a Special Needs Mentor (Mary Buhr & Melissa Hamady) or with the Rescue Mission (Audrey Smiley).*