

Jesus and John the Baptist - Luke 7:18-35

Topics: Expectations, Faith, Healing, Legalism, Messiah, Prophecy, Waiting

Open It

1. What do you do while you're waiting in a line?
- * 2. What's the longest length of time you've waited for an answer from God?
3. In your opinion, what causes most people to doubt?

Explore It

4. How did John react to the reports about Jesus? (7:18-19)
- * 5. For what two questions did John want answers? (7:19)
6. What was Jesus doing when John's disciples arrived? (7:21)
- * 7. How did Jesus answer the visitors' questions? (7:21-22)
8. According to Jesus, what was John's role? (7:24-27)
9. How did Jesus describe greatness? (7:28)
10. Why did the people react in different ways to the words of Jesus? (7:29-30)
- * 11. What did the people's reactions say about their relationship with God? (7:29-30)
12. To what did Jesus compare the people of His day? (7:31-32)
13. How did people characterize John the Baptist? (7:33)
14. How did the description of John the Baptist compare with their characterization of Jesus? (7:34)
15. What did Jesus conclude about the people of His day? (7:35)

Get It

16. In what ways can you relate to John the Baptist in this passage?
- * 17. Why didn't Jesus condemn John's doubts?
18. How is it possible, in the words of verse 23, to "fall away on account of" Jesus?
19. Why do the appearances of God's servants affect how they are received?
20. How can a person be more aware of the message than of the messenger?
21. What is your response to Jesus' claim that the least in God's kingdom is greater than John the Baptist?
- * 22. How can a person cultivate the wisdom and expectant response described by Jesus?

Apply It

- * 23. What can you do this week to be on guard against faltering faith?
24. Of what messengers of Jesus do you need to be more wary today?
25. What opportunities might you have in the next few days to express your beliefs, as well as your doubts?