

Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of October 30, 2016

Luke 6:46-49

These questions are to be used as a spring board for discussion.

Answers may or may not be found in the sermons.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

⁴⁶ “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I tell you? ⁴⁷ I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them.

⁴⁸ That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.”

Common English Bible (CEB)

⁴⁶ “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord’ and don’t do what I say? ⁴⁷ I’ll show what it’s like when someone comes to me, hears my words, and puts them into practice.

⁴⁸ It’s like a person building a house by digging deep and laying the foundation on bedrock. When the flood came, the rising water smashed against that house, but the water couldn’t shake the house because it was well built. ⁴⁹ But those who don’t put into practice what they hear are like a person who built a house without a foundation. The floodwater smashed against it and it collapsed instantly. It was completely destroyed.”

Connection Questions:

1. What is the strategy to win the game of Jenga?

2. Does planning ahead assist you in winning the game of Jenga? How does planning help us with our Christian lives? Describe other similarities between playing Jenga and the way we live our lives.

3. In our text Jesus uses the analogy of building a firm foundation to withstand tough times. Reflect on the first part of Luke 6 and discuss how it relates to this passage.

4. Jesus tells his listeners that building a good foundation is based on listening to and acting on his words. Describe a time in your life when focusing on the words and life of Jesus helped you to stay centered and on a solid foundation.

5. Through his analogy, Jesus says a good foundation is important, especially when floods come. How can a mature faith assist you when confronted with tough times in your life? Give examples of a time when your faith made a difference in such a time.

6. Andy Alexander says, “Our spirituality is similar to working on key relationships in our lives. A relationship will fade if we have no continuing interest in spending time with the other person.” How is the building of good relationships similar to our spirituality?

7. Reflecting on the Serenity Prayer has often helped Rev. Adkins when faced with difficult decisions in his life. How can your faith effect how you confront tough issues in your life?

8. Taking time to reflect and staying focused is important in the game of Jenga. What are the dangers in responding to life’s issues without reflection and staying focused on our faith?