

# Allelon Sunday School for August 12, 2007

## Opening Prayer

### Responsive Reading: Psalm 33:12-22

12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
*the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.*

13 The LORD looks down from heaven,  
*he sees all humankind.*

14 From where he sits enthroned  
*he watches all the inhabitants of the earth--*

15 he who fashions the hearts of them all,  
*and observes all their deeds.*

16 A king is not saved by his great army,  
*a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.*

17 The war horse is a vain hope for victory,  
*and by its great might it cannot save.*

18 Truly the eye of the LORD is on those  
who fear him,  
*on those who hope in his steadfast love.*

19 to deliver their soul from death,  
*and to keep them alive in famine.*

20 Our soul waits for the LORD,  
*he is our help and shield.*

21 Our heart is glad in him,  
*because we trust in his holy name.*

22 Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be  
upon us,  
*even as we hope in you.*

**Stand as Leader Reads Luke 12:32-40**

**Move to Building Groups**

**After Building Groups time, Leader Reads  
Genesis 15:1-6**

**Closing Prayer**

## The Week's Preparation

Each day's Scripture readings are now available automatically from <http://bogartchristian.org> for your devotions. Look on the Sunday school page.

As you say your prayers each morning or evening (or, even better, both), try to use phrases from the Scriptures in your prayers and to pray for the people who were in your Building Group this week. Write their names at the bottom of this sheet.

## Extra Innings

If you answer all of the questions on the other side of this sheet before 10:45, take a few minutes to talk about some of these questions.

1. Take a minute to look at today's prayer requests. If there's any of them that your group members don't know, inform one another.
2. Look at the names of the deacons serving communion today and make sure that everyone in the group knows who they are and how people got to know them.
3. What kinds of things (pictures, books, other objects) in the building remind us what we're doing here? What does each remind us of?
4. Look at today's Old Testament passage that we read. What does it tell us about Israel? About how Israel's journey with God differs from our own?

## **Building Group Discussion**

Get together with the everyone in your Building Group. Each person should think of (and write down, if ye have pens) three things that they wouldn't mind selling if they could get some cash for them and three things that they'd hold onto until times were really desperate. After a couple minutes of such listing, compare lists and talk about why you'd sell what you'd sell and why you wouldn't sell what you wouldn't.

## **Story time!**

Go through as many of these as you can before 10:35:

1. Someone older than twenty, tell a story about something getting stolen. It could have happened at home, at work, or somewhere else. What did people do when they discovered the items were not there any more? Were they ever recovered?
2. Someone younger than twenty, tell a story about an athletic drill (i.e. dribbling drills, ground ball fielding drills, etc.). How does the drill connect to the actual game? Would just playing the game do the same things for that particular skill, or does the repetition of the drill do something for you that just playing around doesn't?
3. Someone other than the first two storytellers, tell a story about your first few weeks as a member of a new social group. It could be your first few weeks in a new town, on a new team, or whatever. When did you start feeling like you were a real part of the group and not just a new person?
4. Someone other than the first three storytellers, tell a story about packing for a trip. What did you forget? What were you gladdest that you didn't forget?

## **The Crawl: Luke 12:32-40**

Answer these as a group. If you don't understand, talk with your group until everyone has a grasp on it. When someone says something that makes you think of a question, ASK THE QUESTION OUT LOUD!

1. What is the first thing that Jesus tells the inheritors of the Kingdom of God to do in verse 33? When he comments on this teaching, what does he say about treasure in heaven?
2. In verse 34, what comes first, the treasure or the heart? In this teaching, do good deeds come from good intentions, or do good intentions come from good deeds? Is this how you tend to think of good deeds, or is this backwards from how you tend to think of things?
3. In verses 37 and 38, how does the parabolic situation that Jesus describes connect with alms-giving in verse 33?
4. In the closing verses of this passage, who is the house owner and who is the thief? Do you often think of Jesus as a thief? In what way is Jesus like a thief here?
5. Since the passage's main themes seem to be giving money to the poor and preparation for Jesus' coming, how do you think these things connect?
6. If you were here last week, try to remember the parable Jesus told in verses 13-21. How does this parable connect with that one?

**Return to the sanctuary by 10:45, but only after you've really dug into those questions! If you finish early, go to the front of this sheet and talk through the "Extra Innings" questions.**