

# Participant Journal: The Sermon That Breaks Us

**Text: Luke 6:17–49**

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## Introduction – Read Luke 16:17-49

Jesus has “earned the right to speak”. He is not merely giving moral advice from a distance. He is the Savior who enters human suffering and carries authority.

### Reflection Questions

- What part of following Jesus has surprised you most?
  - Where do you most feel like you fall short spiritually?
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## Section 1 — How You Keep Score (Luke 6:20–26)

### Jesus Makes Things Uncomfortable Immediately

Jesus says:

- the poor are blessed
- the hungry are blessed
- the grieving are blessed
- the rejected are blessed

Then He warns the rich, who were comfortable, full, and applauded.

This completely reverses the way our world keeps score.

## **Key Thought**

We are external people who value:

- success
- image
- comfort
- approval
- control

Jesus looks internally and values:

- humility
- dependence
- surrender
- trust in God

**Jesus' Kingdom is not the kingdom we naturally dream about.**

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## **Reflection Questions**

**Who would our culture describe as “blessed”?**

**Which “woes” from Jesus feel most convicting or uncomfortable to you?**

**What scorecard do you naturally use to measure your worth?**

**Where are you tempted to value outward success more than dependence on God?**

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## **Section 2 — Who You (Don't) Love (Luke 6:27–36)**

### **Jesus Commands the Impossible**

Jesus says:

- Love your enemies
- Do good to those who hate you
- Bless those who curse you
- Give generously
- Show mercy

This is not normal human behavior.

### **Extra Grace Required**

#### **Luke 6:30–31**

Jesus calls His followers to radical generosity and mercy.

### **The Level Playing Field**

#### **Luke 6:32–34**

Even sinners love people who love them back.

Kingdom love goes beyond ordinary human love.

### **Feel and Act**

#### **Luke 6:35–36**

Jesus calls us not only to loving actions but merciful hearts.

### **Big Question:**

**Can anyone actually do this perfectly?**

## **Reflection Questions**

**Which command in this section feels hardest for you?**

**Why is loving enemies so unnatural?**

**Where do you struggle to show “extra grace”?**

**Is there someone you find difficult to love right now?**

**How does this passage reveal your need for Jesus?**

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## **Section 3 — How You Judge (Luke 6:37–42)**

### **Jesus Warns Us**

Do not:

- judge judgmentally
- condemn hypocritically
- ignore your own sin while focusing on others’

Jesus does not forbid discernment.

He forbids hypocrisy.

## **Responsibly, Not Hypocritically**

The image of the plank and speck reminds us:  
We are often blind to our own failures while obsessing over others'.

### **Big Question:**

**Can anyone do this perfectly?**

## **Reflection Questions**

**Why is it easier to notice flaws in others than in ourselves?**

**What's the difference between discernment and hypocrisy?**

**Have you ever experienced judgment from others that lacked grace?**

**How can correction be both truthful and loving?**

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## **Section 4 — By the Fruit You (Don't) Produce (Luke 6:43–45)**

### **Fruit Reveals the Root**

Jesus says our:

- actions
- attitudes
- speech

All reveal what fills our hearts.

### **Cross References**

Read:

- Galatians 5:19–24
- James 3:5–12

### **Reflection Questions**

**What kind of fruit has your life been producing lately?**

**What does your speech reveal about your heart?**

**Which fruit of the Spirit do you most want God to grow in you?**

**Are your attitudes and actions consistent with the gospel?**

## **Big Question:**

**Can anyone produce perfect fruit on their own?**

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## **Section 5 — How You Obey (Luke 6:46–49)**

### **Two Builders**

Jesus describes:

- one person who hears and obeys
- another who hears and ignores

The storm exposes the foundation.

### **Important Tension**

At this point in the sermon, many people feel defeated.

“I can’t live up to this.”

That feeling is intentional.

Jesus is not giving a motivational speech for slightly better behavior.

He is exposing our inability to save ourselves.

### **Reflection Questions**

**Why do you think Jesus ends with obedience?**

**What’s the difference between hearing Jesus and truly building your life on Him?**

**Have you ever felt spiritually discouraged because you couldn't measure up?**

**Why might recognizing your weakness actually be good news?**

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## **Gospel Reflection**

### **This Sermon Is Meant to Break Us**

Not make us:

- “Try harder”
- “Be slightly better”
- “Fix yourself”

Instead, Jesus shows us:

- our sin
- our weakness
- our inability to meet God's standard

So that we realize:

## **We Need Jesus**

### **Remember**

The law exposes.  
Jesus saves.

The goal is not self-improvement apart from Christ.

The goal is surrender to Him.

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## **Final Reflection**

**Which part of Jesus' sermon hit you most personally today?**

**How does the gospel meet you in that weakness?**