Would the **real** Jesus please stand up?

WEEK THREE

The Un-ignoreable Jesus Week three

LUKE 7:1-35

I. Do you think that Jesus is largely ignored or still regarded positively in our culture today? Why?

2. There are three main events in this passage – what are the similarities and differences between them?

3. Jesus praises the faith of the Centurion in v9. From verses 1-8, what do you think are the important characteristics of his faith? What would these look like today?

4. According to Jesus, this Roman Centurion has greater faith than most people in Israel (v9). Compare the Centurion's faith with that of the Pharisees (cf chapter 5 & 6) – how do they differ? What is the very provocative point that Jesus is making here? What, then, is the nature of true faith?

5. In what ways does the resurrection story in verses 11-17 make a powerful point about how important Jesus is, and the authority he has over everything and everyone? What 'authority' have you given Jesus over your life? What does this look like?

6. Jesus' actions demonstrate who he is – something which John the Baptist still needs to understand (v17-23). Are there any situations in your life in which you are don't quite understand what Jesus is doing? How can the amazing miracles of verses 1-17 help you to trust Jesus and recognise his authority over your life?

7. Jesus reminds his listeners that John the Baptist is a prophet, and yet they largely reject him (v24-28, v33). How much more, then, will these same people misunderstood and ignore Jesus? (v34) Spend a moment thinking about people you know who largely ignore Jesus. Take some time to pray for them – that they would begin to understand just how great Jesus really is.

Notes