

## Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

"Jesus Says..."

## Points from Sunday's Message

- 1. Jesus wants to make me better than I am.
- 2. Jesus thinks well of you.
- 3. Jesus sees the end product, not the current condition.
- 4. Jesus works and speaks from a place of love to produce a perfected outcome.

## Key Verse:

"But wisdom is justified by all her children."

Luke 7:35

## Discussion Questions:

1. When you think about Jesus speaking to you, what emotions surface—comfort, fear, shame, hope?

**Questions:** Pastor Miles emphasized that Jesus knows everything about us: our worst actions, words, and thoughts. Why do you think it's easier sometimes to imagine Jesus' rebuke rather than His encouragement? What do you believe He would actually say to you right now?

Further Reading: Psalm 139:1-6, Romans 8:1

2. Jesus spoke a mild rebuke to John ("Blessed is he who is not offended because of Me") but then publicly affirmed him as the greatest prophet.

**Questions**: What does this tension reveal about how Jesus matures and grows His followers? How does this help you rethink moments of correction in your walk with God? Share a moment when a challenge from God ultimately strengthened your faith.

Further Reading: Hebrews 12:5-11

3. Pastor Miles pointed out that Jesus "thinks well of you" and sees the end product, not just the current condition.

**Questions:** Why do we struggle to believe that Jesus genuinely delights in us? What lies or thought patterns make it hard to walk in our identity in Christ? How can a group or community help remind you of the "end product" God is shaping?

Further Reading: Philippians 1:6, 2 Corinthians 3:17–18

4. Practical Application: John's discouragement came from unmet expectations about how Jesus would work.

**Questions:** Where do you currently feel discouraged because Jesus is not working the way you hoped? How might you surrender your expectations and trust His plan? What would it look like to invite Jesus into that discouragement this week?

**Further Reading:** Isaiah 35:3–6 (the passage Jesus alludes to)

5. Jesus described His generation as children who demand responses—"We played the flute and you did not dance..."

**Questions:** How does this illustration expose our tendency to judge God or others when they don't meet our expectations? In what ways do we still act like "children in the marketplace"? What helps you stay humble and aligned with God's wisdom rather than your own preferences?

Further Reading: Luke 7:31–35, Matthew 11:16–19

6. *Practical Application:* Miles addressed intrusive thoughts, asking, "Where does this thought lead?" and reminding us that wisdom is justified by her children (v. 35).

**Question:** Choose one recurring thought you wrestle with—fear, shame, temptation, discouragement. Where does that thought lead if you follow its trail? Does it produce life or destruction? What would it look like to replace it with something that is "true, noble, just, pure, lovely"? (Philippians 4:8–9)

Further Reading: Philippians 4:4–9