

# A STORY OF HELL

Luke 16:19-31

- Hell is a subject that cannot be dismissed or ignored regardless of how many people don't want to talk or hear about it.
- Jesus spoke on hell three times to every one time he spoke on heaven.

1. HELL IS ETERNAL.
2. HELL IS A PLACE OF PAIN.
3. HELL IS A PLACE OF FEAR.
4. HELL IS A PLACE OF SADNESS.
5. HELL IS A PLACE OF ISOLATION.
6. HELL IS A PLACE OF SEPARATION.

## A FEW "GOOD" THINGS IN HELL:

- "GOOD" PEOPLE ARE IN HELL.
  - All Christians should care about others, but even some non-Christians have compassion.
- GOOD VISION IS IN HELL.
  - "And being in torment in Hades, he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off, with Lazarus at his side." (Luke 16:23)
- GOOD PRAYERS ARE IN HELL.
  - 'Father Abraham!' he called out, 'Have mercy on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this flame!' (Luke 16:24)
- GOOD MEMORY IS IN HELL.
  - 'Son,' Abraham said, 'remember that during your life you received your good things, just as Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here, while you are in agony' (Luke 16:25).
- GOOD THEOLOGY IS IN HELL.
  - "... every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:11).
- GOOD PRIORITIES ARE IN HELL.
  - 'Father,' he said, 'then I beg you to send him to my father's house—because I have five brothers—to warn them, so they won't also come to this place of torment' (Luke 16:27-28).

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- **GOOD INTENTIONS ARE IN HELL.**
  - One can reject Christ through outright rebellion, but rejection of the Lord does not have to be active. One can deny and refuse Christ also through apathy, indifference, procrastination and even ignorance.

**Hell was not prepared for you! Jesus has prepared a place for you.**

- “Don’t let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if not, I would have told you. I am going away to prepare a place for you. If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also. You know the way to where I am going.’ ‘Lord,’ Thomas said, ‘we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’” (John 14:1-7)

## **CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Icebreaker:** Describe the first time you heard about hell and what was your reaction?

**Start thinking:**

- What stands out to you as you read Luke 16:19-31?
- What is the difference to what happened immediately after the rich man and Lazarus’ death? (Think beyond “one went to heaven and one to hell”).

**Start sharing. Discuss in depth to create openness.**

- Why is it so hard to talk about hell with people?
- Why do you think Jesus spoke about hell 3 times to every one time He spoke of Heaven?
- Why is it important to share the reality of Hell with our “one” and anyone else we are trying to reach for Christ?
- Where are you at in finding and reaching your One?

**Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.**

- Heavenly Father, I thank you for the privilege of knowing you. My heart is to see many more come to faith in Jesus as their Savior. I ask that you help me to stay on mission and to have the words to say to \_\_\_\_\_ (the name of your One). Prepare their heart to receive the message of the Gospel, and guide me as I pray for them, serve them, and share with them. In Jesus’ Name. – Amen

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