

A hand is shown knocking on a dark wooden door. The background is a solid dark blue color. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box on the left side of the image.

WHEN GOD *Isn't Enough*

LUKE 13: 22-30
MESSAGE BY:
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When Good Isn't Enough – March 2022

Luke 13:22-30

22 He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. **23** And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, **24** "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. **25** When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' **26** Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' **27** But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' **28** In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. **29** And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. **30** And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

The Lenten season offers us an opportunity to probe deeply into our hearts and examine what we find there. It's a time to acknowledge the areas in our lives where we have hard hearts and where God calls us to repent. This morning's text invites us to ask one of those big questions we should explore during Lent. "Lord, will those who are saved be few?"

Jesus says many will seek the Kingdom of heaven, but only a few will find. Even those who say, "We worshiped in your presence!", "We ministered in your name!" may find out that they never actually knew God. We are not saved based on our knowledge of the Bible, or of the works we do. We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus.

Have you ever heard someone answer a question about if they have a relationship with Jesus by saying, "Well, I'm a good person! That should count for something."?

- How do you feel about this question?
- What does the narrative of Scripture say about our ability to truly be "good" people?
- Can we be saved by being good?

Jesus says that only those who know and are known by God will enter heaven.

- What does it mean to know God?
- What does it mean to be known by God?
- How can we know that we know God and be assured of salvation?

