

SG Discussion Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups 5/12/13

Don't Miss Jesus Matthew 12.1-37

Purpose of SG: to foster in its members the biblical values of worship (God), discipleship (church), and outreach (lost).

2013 Annual Focus: Drawing Near to the Good and Mighty King.

Announcements: (1) SGL Basic Training Thursday May 23rd from 8:30am-12:30pm, (2) new Corporate Prayer childcare schedule.

SG Discussion Questions:

Focus: *to crush all opposition to Jesus in our souls as we see Him for who He really is and treasure Him rightly.*

Read 12.1-14. How would you explain the Pharisees' ferocious opposition to Jesus even though He is doing such good works? How can that same trap be set for us? What might our opposition to Jesus look like as a result?

Read 12.15-29. Make a list of everything this section teaches us about Jesus. Which one is particularly encouraging to you? Discuss the significance for us of what we learn about Jesus' relationship with the devil.

Read 12.30-32. What comfort do these verses bring to you? What questions do they raise? How would you counsel someone who thought they had committed blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?

Here is John Piper's definition of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit: The unforgivable sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is an act of resistance which belittles the Holy Spirit so grievously that he withdraws for ever with his convicting power so that we are never able to repent and be forgiven.

Read 12.33-37. What do these verses teach us about our speech? How ought that affect you?

If the Pharisees' opposition to Jesus was rooted in their "missing who He was" due, in part, to their focussing on the wrong things, what must you do to guard against their error (even to a lesser degree)?