

Marine View Church Sermon-Based Small Groups

Week of January 20, 2008

Luke 7:29-35 – The Children in the Marketplace

Starting Together

- If you have new group members, introduce yourselves to one another.
- When have you had someone respond to you in a way that was completely different than you expected? Briefly share what happened. How did that make you feel?

Studying Together

- Read aloud the passage: Luke 7:29-35. What stands out to you from this week's text or message?
- What was the essence of the message that John the Baptist came to proclaim? (Review Luke 3:2-20; 7:24-28, if necessary.)
- How did the people, including the tax collectors, respond to John the Baptist's message? What was the response of the religious leaders, the Pharisees and the experts on Jewish law?
- Jesus says that the people of this generation are like children calling to each other in the marketplace (7:32). List words that describe the way in which the children in Jesus' parable relate to each other and the attitudes they might have held.
- Based on the context, who do you think Jesus' brief parable is describing? Why?
- Why does Jesus say that both he and John the Baptist are being rejected? What reasons are given? What deeper issues are at work here?

Living Together

- With which group do you most easily identify: the people and tax collectors, or the Pharisees and lawyers? Why?
- How have your expectations of God and his work in your life changed over time? (E.g., Are there things you once expected of God that you have learned are unfounded or unrealistic? Are there things you have learned to expect that you once didn't?)
- Which tune is God playing for you today: the dance or the dirge? What is one thing you can do this week to respond to God's invitation?

Praying Together

- **Application:** Ask for God's help in applying today's passage to your life.
- **Personal requests:** How can this group pray for you?
- **Ministry (within the church):** Pray for Marine View Christian Preschool as our teachers and staff minister to children and families from our community, including many who do not know and follow Christ.
- **Outreach (to the world):** Pray for the ongoing relief efforts after the floods in and around Centralia and Chehalis. Ask God to guide and work through our weekly mission teams that are going to assist with the recovery.