

# Home Group Discussion Questions

19th March 2017

**Read:** Luke 13: 22-35

Jesus is heading for Jerusalem (v.22), the strong connecting theme throughout the latter part of Luke and the theme we are looking at this Lent. The shadows are lengthening and the mood is sombre.

1. Thinking generally first about the passion narratives of the Gospels, in what ways was Jesus a 'Man of Sorrows' *prior to* his crucifixion?
2. Jesus is interrupted in his teaching and preaching by a theological question (v.23). What do you think may have prompted the question and what do you find striking about how Jesus answers it?
3. The first sort of sorrow is the 'sorrow of regret' – bitter and despairing. Who do you think is the target of Jesus grim portrayal of those locked out from the banquet? How come they claim to know Jesus (v.26) and yet he claims not to know them (v.27)?
4. Who are being identified as 'the last who will be first' (v.30) and what is the significance of this?
5. Do you consider the Pharisees warning about Herod (v.31) to be a friendly gesture or a not-too-subtle way of getting Jesus off their patch?
6. Jesus has a deep conviction about his earthly destiny – it is Jerusalem and his death – and even Herod cannot deter him from that. How do you think that conviction was born?
7. The 'second sorrow' is the sorrow of longing – a longing born out of divine yearning and love. What do you think is meant by the statement 'your house is left to you desolate' (v.35)? What other passages of Scripture does it bring to mind?
8. What, for you is the overall challenge of this passage of Scripture? What attitude and action does it demand of us today?

