



Sermon Discussion Questions  
Sunday, June 14, 2026

“The Character of The Kingdom” **Luke 13: 10-30**  
Rev. Cole Lescher

**THE HEALING OF THE DISABLED WOMAN (10-17)**

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*A woman had been crippled for eighteen years. Jesus saw her, called her over, and said, “Woman, you are freed from your disability.” — Luke 13:12*

1. The woman had been crippled for eighteen years, yet Jesus noticed her without being asked. What does this tell us about how Jesus sees people others overlook?
2. The synagogue ruler’s complaint seemed technically reasonable. How do rules and religious routine sometimes become obstacles to **mercy**? Where do you see that tension in your own life?
3. Jesus calls her a daughter of Abraham — a title of dignity and belonging. Who in your community needs to be reminded that they belong?

**THE MUSTARD SEED AND THE LEAVEN (18-21)**

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*“What is the Kingdom of God like? ... It is like a mustard seed ... it becomes a tree. It is like yeast ... the whole batch of dough rises.” — Luke 13:18-21*

4. Both parables describe the Kingdom starting small and hidden. What small, seemingly insignificant act of faithfulness might God be using in ways you can’t yet see?
5. Yeast works invisibly, from the inside out. How is that a helpful — or challenging — picture of how God changes people and communities?

**THE NARROW DOOR (22-30)**

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*“Strive to enter through the narrow door ... Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and take their places at the banquet in the Kingdom of God.” — Luke 13:24, 29*

6. Someone asks if only a few will be saved — but Jesus doesn’t answer directly. **Instead**, he says strive to enter. Why do you think Jesus redirects from curiosity about others to urgency about oneself?
7. The people outside say, “We ate and drank with you; you taught in our streets.” What is the difference between religious familiarity and actually knowing Jesus?
8. The image of the door being shut is uncomfortable. How do you hold together Jesus’ urgency here with the grace and welcome we see throughout Luke’s Gospel?
9. People come from every direction to the feast — outsiders welcomed, assumed insiders excluded. Who did Jesus’ original audience expect to be in or out? How might that challenge our own assumptions?
10. Some who are last will be first, and some who are first will be last. What would change if you genuinely lived as if you believed that?

**ZOOM OUT & ZOOM IN**

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11. What thread connects the bent woman’s healing with the warning about the closed door? What is Luke saying about the Kingdom of God?
12. Do you feel more like the bent woman, the synagogue ruler, or the people knocking at the closed door — and why?

*Take time this week to re-read Luke 13:10-30 slowly. What verse stays with you?*