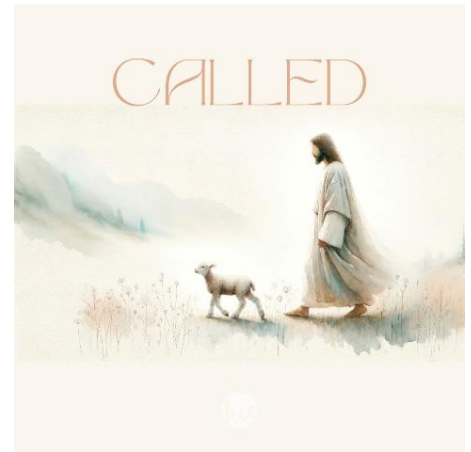


Life Group Study Notes

Date: 19th April 2026
Sermon: Don't Play with Fire
Speaker: Brigitte Crowe
Scriptures: Mark 9:42-50



Scripture Questions:

1. Verse 42. Define "Little Ones": Jesus refers to "these little ones who believe in me". Does this refer only to children, or could it include new or vulnerable believers? What strong imagery does Jesus' use to describe the seriousness of leading others into sin?
2. What does it mean to "cause someone to stumble"? What are the attitudes, habits, or influences in our lives that could cause us, or others, to stumble?
3. V. 43-47. What body parts are mentioned, and what is Jesus' teaching through these examples? Could this mean that we should be prepared to make exceptional sacrifices if we want to follow Him, why? What does this passage reveal about God's attitude toward sin?
4. What are the "hands, feet, or eyes" in our life (relationships, habits, or environments) that might be causing you to trip spiritually? Why is it "better to enter life maimed" than to remain "whole" and face judgment?
5. Romans 10:14-15. "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news". Does this explain that Jesus is speaking metaphorically not literally, why?
6. V48. "The worms and the fire". What does this teach about hell? How does this sobering description challenge some liberal views of divine judgment?
7. V49-50. What does Jesus say about "salt"? In this context, what causes a believer or a community to "lose its saltiness"? This passage ends with an instruction to "be at peace with each other." How does maintaining personal holiness (in the previous verses) relate to having peace within the Christian community?

Personal Questions:

- Ask God to reveal anything in your life that leads you or others to stumble or toward sin?
- Pray for courage to deal decisively with those things?
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you live as "salt"—bringing purity, preservation, and peace to others.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the directness and the weight of Your Word in this passage. We confess that we constantly take sin too lightly, but these words remind us of the high standard we should take when following Jesus.

Lord, give us the courage to perform 'spiritual surgery' on our own lives. Help us to identify the habits, distractions, or relationships that cause us to stumble and give us the strength to set them aside for the sake of Your Kingdom.

We commit ourselves to You again today. Shape us, guide us, and use us for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.