

Luke Study Plan – Part I

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LUKE - Questions for reflection and Section memory verses:

Day 1 Luke 1:1-38

Section 1 Memorization Verse: Luke 2:14

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Why is Luke writing this gospel to Theophilus?

How does Luke describe the way he is writing this gospel?

(2 ***denotes harder questions***) What does Luke mean when he says "things accomplished among us" (NASB) in verse 1? How might we find out other options of what that might mean?

Why does Zacharias question the angel? How does Gabriel respond?

Why does Elizabeth say what she says in verse 25?

(2) Why does Gabriel call Mary the "favored one" in verse 28?

(2) Mary's final response to the angel is – "may it be done to me according to your word". What kind of statement is this? What is Mary's attitude toward the angel and the news?

APPLICATION

Luke writes the famous sentence in verse 37 – "For nothing will be impossible with God." Are there places or ways in your life where your words or actions show you are not believing this truth?

Day 2 Luke 1:39-80

Section 1 Memorization Verse: Luke 2:14

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Elizabeth says to Mary "Blessed are you among women..." How is Mary blessed?

(2) How do you think Luke had this information about Elizabeth and Mary's time together?

(2) What do you think is the main point of Mary's poem that we call the 'Magnificat'?

What song do we know comes from the Magnificat?

Why were Elizabeth's friends and neighbors rejoicing with her?

Why did they name him John?

(2) What is the purpose of Zacharias's prophecy?

(2) Are there any similarities between the Magnificat and Zacharias's prophecy?

What does the prophecy say about the purpose for the child?

APPLICATION

This passage is mostly about fulfilled prophecy. Mary believed God right away. Zacharias did not. Do you believe God's promises? Which ones are you tempted to doubt?

Day 3**Luke 2:1-24****Section 1 Memorization Verse: Luke 2:14**

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) What is a census and why was it important for Caesar to know this information?

(2) How far is it from Nazareth to Bethlehem (will need more than Bible text to answer)?

How was this trip hard compared to our day? (2) What made this trip especially difficult?

(2) The angel came to the shepherds – why do you think they were the audience for this announcement?

Who did the angel say the good news was for?

What was the shepherd's response? Would that have been any different than your response?

(2) What does Luke mean when he says that Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart?

(2) What does it mean that Joseph and Mary offered a sacrifice of birds? (see Leviticus 12)

APPLICATION

The angel announces Jesus' arrival as 'good news of great joy'. Do you treat the good news of Jesus this way? What can you do to grow in being like the angel (messenger)?

Day 4**Luke 2:25-52****Section 2 Memorization Verse: Luke 4:8**

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) What does it mean to say that Simeon was 'looking for the consolation of Israel'?

Why was Simeon in the temple that day?

(2) What did Simeon mean by his statements in verses 29-32?

(2) What did Simeon mean by his statements in verses 34-35?

What kind of person was Anna? How many years was she in the temple?

What does it mean to say that Anna spoke of Him "to all those who were looking for the redemption of Israel"? (NASB)

How do you think Mary & Joseph felt when they found out Jesus wasn't with their relatives and friends?

Why didn't they understand Jesus' answer? Did they forget that He is God's son?

APPLICATION

It is clear that Mary and Joseph, though they know that Jesus is the Messiah, are still unsure what that means. Discuss how we can also be confused about who it means to follow Jesus. (just being 'for Jesus' doesn't equate to being a follower of Jesus. He demands worship (love) of Him from our whole mind, heart, soul, & strength!)

Day 5 Luke 3

Section 2 Memorization Verse: Luke 4:8

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

How do we know when the events of Luke 3 took place?

(2) Where is the Old Testament prophecy from? What chapter of that book?

What kind of baptism was John preaching? (2) What does that mean?

What does John mean when he says to 'bear fruit in keeping with repentance'?

(2) John tells the people that Jesus will baptize with "the Holy Spirit and fire". What does that mean?

In verses 10-14, John provides advice to people who have come to him. How would you classify his advice to the people?

What happened to John in Luke 3?

(2) The baptism of Jesus appears in all four gospels – one of the few stories that does. Why is it so important?

How many names do you recognize in the genealogy of Jesus?

APPLICATION

John reminds his listeners to "bear fruit" that proves they are repenting. How often are we repenting of our sins? If we are asking forgiveness from the Lord, how are we proving our repentance with actions?

Day 6**Luke 4:1-30****Section 2 Memorization Verse: Luke 4:8**

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) Why was Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days?

What was the devil tempting Jesus with in verse 3? (2) What is the root sin?

What was the devil tempting Jesus with in verse 6-7? (2) what is the root sin?

What was the devil tempting Jesus with in verses 9-11? What is different about this temptation?

(2) How are these temptations similar to what Eve experienced in Genesis 3? (cf I John 2:16)

What was different about teaching in Nazareth?

Where in Isaiah did Jesus read? (2) What did this prophecy foretell?

How did Jesus know the scripture was fulfilled?

(2) Why does Jesus talk about the widow in Zarephath & Naaman the Syrian?

Why do the people want to throw Jesus off a cliff?

APPLICATION

Jesus speaks the truth and the response of the people of His own hometown shows their true hearts. What happens when someone tries to speak truth to you? Are you open to someone speaking truth to your life? What do you think you could change so that you are (or more so)?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) What do you think it means that they were 'amazed at His teaching, for His message was with authority' (v32)?

(2) Why do the demons correctly identify Jesus? Doesn't that work against their goals?

(2) Why does Jesus tell the spirit to be quiet (v35 & 41)?

How do we know Simon is married? What do we know about his wife?

What was the purpose for which Jesus was sent according to His own words?

Jesus draws a crowd everywhere He goes. What is He doing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret?

What happens when Jesus tells Peter to let down his nets?

(2) Why does Peter call himself a sinful man after the big catch of fish?

What is Peter's, along with James and John, response to Jesus' miracle and command?

APPLICATION

Jesus makes a statement about the purpose of his incarnation in verse 43, and it wasn't to perform miracles and do healings. When we approach God in prayer, how do we often have the same problem that the crowds had in understanding what is truly important?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

What does Jesus do to heal the man with Leprosy? (2) Why does He need to do that?

(2) Why did Jesus want or need to pray?

Why does Jesus forgive the paralyzed man's sins?

What does Jesus do to prove His authority to forgive sins? What does this tell us about His miracles?

What is the people's response in verse 26? (2) Why are they all having these emotions and reactions?

What was Levi's response to Jesus' invitation? Levi had a big party and invited his friends. Why do the Pharisees call the partygoers "sinners"?

Does Jesus' answer mean that he thinks the scribes and Pharisees are righteous? Why not?

What does Jesus' answer mean regarding fasting (v34-35)? Who is the bridegroom?

(2) What is the meaning of this parable (v36-39)?

APPLICATION

If only God can forgive sins, why are we called to forgive one another? What does forgiveness accomplish? (see Eph 4:32)

Day 9**Luke 6:1-38****Section 3 Memorization Verse: Luke 6:27**

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Does Jesus answer the Pharisee's question in verse 2? (2) What do you think His answer actually was?

(2) What does "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath" mean?

Why does Jesus ask the question in verse 9? Why were the Pharisees so angry with Jesus in verse 11?

Verses 3-5 are hard to understand. (2) What can we do to find out how to understand passages, especially in the gospels?

(2) What is the significance of Jesus choosing 12 among the bigger group of disciples? What role do they play?

Why does Jesus tell His disciples that they are blessed if people hate them?

Do you have enemies? (2) How do you think verse 27 applies to you?

(2) What does Jesus mean when He says (verse 38) "by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return?"

APPLICATION

Jesus warns against judgmentalism in this passage. Christians have always struggled with judging, especially of one another. What does a judgmental heart reveal?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Why does Jesus talk about the blind leading the blind? Who is he talking about?

What does Jesus mean when he talks about the hypocrite in verse 42?

What does it mean to bear good fruit?

(2) How do verses 43-45 square with knowing that all Christians will still sin?

(2) Who would call Jesus 'Lord, Lord', and yet not obey His word?

What does someone need to do to be like someone who builds their house on a strong foundation?

Why does Jesus say that He hasn't found anyone like the centurion in all Israel?

Why does verse 12 mention that the mother of the son was a widow?

(2) Verse 16 says that "Fear gripped them all, and they began glorifying God..." Why would the people fear Jesus? How does fearing Jesus bring God glory?

APPLICATION

Jesus reminds us that many people know His name (v46), but are not His followers. What does a follower of Jesus do? What does this say about how we as Christians weather the 'storms' of life?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) Why did John the Baptist send people to ask Jesus who He was?

How does Jesus answer their question?

(2) What does Jesus mean by what He says in verse 28? Doesn't that seem like a contradiction?

(2) This story connects to the reason that John the Baptist sent people to ask about Jesus. What is different about John the Baptist and Jesus' ministry as Jesus explains here?

Why do Jesus and Simon (the Pharisee) agree that the man with the larger debt will love Jesus more?

(2) Why does Jesus compare Simon and his household to what the woman is doing?

What does Jesus say to the woman?

What is the meaning of Jesus' last statement in verse 50?

APPLICATION

Simon the Pharisee judged the woman with the alabaster vial, but Jesus forgave her. Is there anyone in the church you are more likely to judge than to befriend? How can you change the way you see the people around you?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Who is travelling with Jesus? Why?

What does it mean that they were "contributing to their support out of their private means"?

The parable of the sower is probably one of the best known parables. How do we know what the meaning of it is?

(2) What does Jesus mean by what He says in verse 10? Where is He quoting from?

How many of the seeds are actually followers of Christ?

(2) What is the meaning of Jesus statements about the lampstand and hidden things?

What point is Jesus trying to make with the crowd in verses in 19-20

Did the storm sneak up on the disciples? Did the storm sneak up on Jesus?

The disciples thought their lives were in danger – why does Jesus question their faith?

APPLICATION

Jesus teaches on the parable, interpreting it to show his disciples that only the 4th soil represents a true follower of Jesus. What kind of fruit do followers of Christ show? Do you show the fruit of belief?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) What do we learn about demons in verse 28? Why did they want to go into the swine?

Who owns the swine?

Why were the townspeople frightened or afraid when they saw the man clothed and in his right mind?

(2) Why would they ask Jesus to leave?

Jesus says in verse 39 that God has done 'great things' for the man. (2) What are those things?

Why did Jesus ask the crowd who touched him? Didn't he know?

Sometimes when we read something, it is hard to know what the scene really looked like. What do you think happened when the person from Jairus' house came to him and told him his daughter had died?

Jesus' words "only believe, and she will be made well" he spoke to Jairus. Do you think Jairus understood what Jesus meant?

(2) Why does Jesus tell the people at Jairus' house that the girl is only sleeping?

APPLICATION

Jesus tells Jairus to believe and not be afraid in verse 50. How are these concepts opposites? Are there areas in your life where you see that you are afraid instead of believing?

Day 14 Luke 9:1-27

Section 5 Memorization Verse: Luke 9:44

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

What did Jesus send out the twelve to do?

Luke notes that Herod wants to see Jesus. (2) Why do you think he includes this little section in his account to Theophilus?

Why do you think Jesus told the disciples to give the crowd something to eat?

Why does the recounting of this story include picking up 12 baskets after they were all done?

Verse 22 lays out exactly what is going to happen. Why don't the disciples understand this?

(2) What does verse 23 mean? (2) What does verse 24 mean?

What does Jesus mean by saying that someone can 'gain the whole world'?

What does it mean to be ashamed of Jesus and his words?

APPLICATION

When Jesus asks the disciples who people think He is, why do none of them say the "Messiah" (Christ)? Do we communicate to the world that Jesus wasn't just a prophet or a teacher? What are some ways we can make sure the people around us know who we believe Jesus to be?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) What is the significant of Moses and Elijah appearing with Jesus?

Why did Peter suggest building 3 tabernacles for Elijah, Moses, and Jesus?

(2) Who is the voice speaking out of the cloud? Why does the voice command them to listen to Him?

Why couldn't the disciples cast out the demon from the boy?

(2) What is Jesus trying to teach his disciples in verses 47-48?

What does verse 51 mean when it says he was determined to go to Jerusalem?

Why does Jesus rebuke his disciples in verse 55?

How are the 3 examples of people in verses 57-62 similar?

(2) These followers of Jesus don't understand something that we also struggle to understand in our day. What is that concept?

APPLICATION

How are we often like James and John in verse 54? How should we look at the world around us that has rejected Jesus? What should our attitude be toward the wicked and unbelieving?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Where did Jesus send out the 70 others?

What does the statement "the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few" mean?

(2) Jesus tells them one thing is the same, whether the city receives them or not. What is it?

What is the difference between the cities of Tyre, Sidon, and Sodom & Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum? What does Jesus mean?

What does it mean to reject the 70? What does Jesus tell the 70 the true joy should be in?

Who were the prophets and kings Jesus is talking about in verse 24?

What lesson is Jesus teaching the lawyer in the parable of the Good Samaritan?

(2) Who is your neighbor?

What is the reason Jesus values Mary's choice over Martha's?

APPLICATION

Jesus rebukes Martha for valuing service over listening to Jesus words? Do you value God's Word as the treasure it is? How should we balance loving God's Word with serving others?

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

Why do you think his disciples wanted to be taught how to pray?

What are the elements of the prayer Jesus teaches them?

What are verses 5-8 teaching us about prayer?

What are verses 9-13 teaching us about prayer?

Why does Jesus call all fathers evil?

Why would anyone say that Jesus is casting out demons by the power of the ruler of the demons?

(2) What is the meaning of verses 20-23? Who is the strongman?

Verse 24-26 is an odd story. Why is Jesus telling this story about demons? Why is the last state worse than the first?

(2) What does the woman in verse 27 misunderstand about Jesus?

APPLICATION

Verses 5-8 discuss being persistent in prayer. What can we learn from the persistent late night friend? Does your prayer life mirror the person in the story? What can you do to change the way you think about asking God for things in prayer?

Day 18**Luke 11:29-54****Section 6 Memorization Verse: Luke 10:20**

What happened in today's reading & Who were the main people involved?

(2) How can we know what the sign of Jonah is?

(2) What does a lamp have to do with Jonah or Solomon?

What does the light or lamp signify as Jesus is teaching?

Why does Jesus attack the Pharisees in verse 39?

(2) What evidence do we have that the Pharisees are disregarding justice or the love of God?

What is wrong with what the Pharisees in verse 43?

What are the burdens that the experts in the Law are laying onto the people?

Why does Jesus say that it was their fathers that killed the prophets?

(2) What does Jesus mean by them taking away the key of knowledge?

APPLICATION

Jesus pronounces 'woes' on the Pharisees and legal experts in this passage. In what way does this compare with theologians today? What should we prioritize over exacting theology and doctrine?