

“FOLLOW ME”**The Angel’s Visits Luke 1**

For nothing is impossible with God. Luke 1:37

Day 1: Read Luke 1:1–17.

1. What do we learn about the author of Luke from verses 1–4? What is his purpose in writing this book? Look again at verse 4; would you pray that Luke’s purpose is fulfilled for you this year?
2. Describe Zechariah and Elizabeth.
3. When the angel says, “Zechariah, your prayer has been heard,” what prayer is he talking about? See verses 13–16.
4. From your Bible notes or from a baby name book tell what the name John means. How does John’s name suit him? Is John’s birth only for the delight of his parents—or for some greater purpose? (vss. 14, 16, 17)

Day 2: Read Luke 1:11–22; 58–67.

5. How will John be different from other Israelites?
6. Do any of the angel’s words sound familiar to Zechariah? (Malachi 4:5, 6) What does the “spirit and power of Elijah” do? (1 Kings 18:36, 37)
7. How do the townsfolk react to all the goings on with Zechariah and Elizabeth? (vss. 21, 22, 58–66)

Day 3: Read Luke 1:18–25; 57–80.

8. Compare Zechariah’s words before he becomes mute and after his speech is restored (vss. 18 and 64). How do you think his heart has changed?
9. Read Zechariah’s song in verses 68–79. List some words or phrases that describe God. What would be a good title for Zechariah’s song?

Day 4: Read Luke 1:26–45.

11. What would the angel's words to Mary remind her of? (Isaiah 9:6, 7)

12. From your Bible notes or from a baby name book tell what the name Jesus means (the Hebrew form is Joshua). See also Matthew 1:21.

13. What adjectives would you use to characterize Mary's response to the angel in verse 38? Considering what her fiancé Joseph's response might be (Matt. 1:19), what would you add?

14. What tells us that Elizabeth knew that Mary's child was the Messiah?

Day 5: Read Luke 1:46–56.

15. Read Mary's song:
 - A. What's the main idea of verses 46–48?

 - B. Of verses 49 and 50?

 - C. What six things does God do in verses 51-53?

 - D. What's the main idea of verses 54 and 55?

 - E. How is Mary's song a joyful climax to all the events of Luke 1?

16. Mary literally had Christ formed in her. Read Galatians 4:19 and Romans 12:1. How are we believers similar to Mary?

17. How is verse 37 a good summary of the whole chapter?

“FOLLOW ME”**The Birth of Jesus****Luke 2**

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord” Luke 2:11

Day 1: Read Luke 2:1–7.

1. Why is Luke careful to establish the fact that Jesus was born in Bethlehem? (Micah 5:2; John 7:42)
2. How does Jesus himself show that fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy—even more than just miracle-working—is the proof of the authenticity of the Messiah? (Luke 7:18–22; Isa. 29:18; 35:5–6; Deut. 18:21–22)
3. Why do you think Luke includes in his narrative the colorful little detail in 7b?

Day 2: Read Luke 2:8–12.

4. From what social class are the first recipients of the “good news”? How does that strike you? (Mull over 1:52, 53). As you continue in Luke in the following weeks, see if this develops into a theme.
5. What are the titles given to Jesus in verse 11? What kind of “Savior” is this child destined to be—political or other? (1:77)

Day 3: Read Luke 2:13.

6. When in history will men once again see the sky parting and “a great multitude of the heavenly hosts appearing” (vs. 13)? (2 Thes. 1:7)
7. What first words of the angels to the shepherds are also some of the most frequently repeated words in Scripture? (2:10)
8. What song did the angels sing that the whole universe will be caught up in one day? (vs. 14; Rev. 19:6–7)

9. Describe how the shepherds responded to the “good news”. (vss. 15–20) How do you respond to the “good news” in your daily life and circumstances?

10. Did the shepherds keep the good news to themselves? (vs. 17) How about you?

Day 4: Read Luke 2:21–40.

11. From cradle to grave, Jesus fulfilled every point of the Old Testament law that was laid on men (2:21–24, 27, 39, 41f. Why did he do that? (Consider Matt. 3:13–15; Rom. 3: 10–12, 21; Heb. 5:1, 9)

12. Simeon lived his life “waiting for the consolation of Israel” (vs. 25). What is it that you live your life waiting for?

13. Why should no Jew have been totally surprised at Simeon’s prophecy of Gentile salvation (vs. 32)? (Isa. 49:6; 42:6)

14. Down through history, how has Jesus been the cause of “the falling and rising of many” and the one through whom “the thoughts of many hearts (are) revealed” (vss. 34–35)?

15. Anna was glorifying and useful to God even in her eighties. (See what she’s doing in vs. 38.) What are your honest expectations about your old age? (Think about Psalm 92:12–15.)

Day 5: Read Luke 2:41–52.

16. What things do we learn about Jesus in this only recorded incident from his childhood?

17. How might we do well to emulate Mary in her response to all the wonderful things we have read in this chapter of Luke? (2:51 b)

“FOLLOW ME”**Repentance and Baptism Luke 3**

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.” Luke 3:8

Day 1: Read Luke 3:1–6.

1. Recall what we learned about John the Baptist’s birth in Luke 1.
2. Why does Luke take the trouble to list all of the rulers at the time of John’s ministry? (He is the only gospel writer to do so.) Identify any of the names that are familiar to you. (*Note: This Herod is the son of the Herod mentioned in Luke 1:5.*)
3. What happened to John in the desert? (vs. 2) How did John’s life change after this experience? Choose a word to describe John’s response to God.
4. What role does Luke ascribe to John in verses 4–6? (see also Isaiah 40:3–5) (*Note: These verses refer to the road improvement traditionally given the route a king would take before a planned journey.*) What sorts of things would you expect John to do in order to “smooth the road” for Jesus?

Day 2: Read Luke 3:7–14

5. To get an insight into what John’s “baptism of repentance” message was all about, read these verses. Why do you think crowds flocked to him?
6. What was John’s main complaint about the people? (vss. 8, 9)
7. How did he illustrate repentance in the lives of ordinary people? (vss. 11–14)
8. What application might he have given you in your personal circumstances?

Day 3: Read Luke 3:15–20.

9. What question arose in the minds of the people? (vs. 15) When else had people wondered about John? (Luke 1:66)

10. How did John respond? What picture of Jesus does John describe in verse 17?
11. John baptized with water; what does Jesus baptize with? (vs. 16; see also Acts 1:5, 8)
12. Politically, John's message went one step too far. Who was the object of his rebuke? (vs. 19)
What consequence did John suffer? (*Note: See Matt. 14:3, 4 and Mark 6:14–29 for details about this first century scandal.*)
13. For all his warnings, John is called a preacher of the good news in verse 18. Why?

Day 4: Read Luke 3:21, 22.

14. What is startling about Jesus participating in a “baptism of repentance”?
15. If Jesus was sinless, why did he participate? (See Matt. 3:13–15; John 1:31–34; II Corinthians 5:21 for some ideas.)
16. What was Jesus doing when the Holy Spirit descended on him? What do you think God's blessing meant to Jesus? What did it mean to others who heard it?

Day 5: Read Luke 3:23–37.

17. How did Jesus' life change after his baptism?
18. Whose side of the family, mother's or father's, does Luke trace Jesus' genealogy through? Why does he qualify this lineage in verse 23b?
19. Matthew's genealogy only goes back as far as Abraham. Why do you think Luke goes back to Adam?

“FOLLOW ME”**The Ministry of Jesus Begins Luke 4**

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4: 18, 19

Day 1: Read Luke 4:1–44.

1. In verse 1 it states that Jesus.... “returned from the Jordan.” What significant events happened to Jesus at the Jordan River? (Luke 3:21, 22)
2. Why were the events at the Jordan River important to the events in this chapter?
3. What two phrases show how the Holy Spirit impacted Jesus? (vs. 1)
4. How does the Holy Spirit impact you? Why is this important for you? (Romans 8:5)

Day 2: Read Luke 4:1–14.

5. What caused Jesus to go into the desert? (Matt. 4:1) What happened in the desert? (vs. 2) Does it surprise you that Jesus was led into such testing after his baptism? Why or why not?
6. As you read identify:
 - A. how the devil addressed Jesus (“if” phrases).
 - B. the three areas in which the devil appealed to Jesus.
 - C. how Jesus responded to the devil.
7. Why do you think the devil used Scripture? Why did Jesus use Scripture?

8. How did Jesus return to Galilee? (vs. 14) Why do you think he was able to return in this state?

Day 3: Read Luke 4:14–30.

9. Verses 18 and 19 contain the mission of Jesus. What are the five stated purposes? How are these still valid today?

10. How would you explain what is Jesus telling the people in verses 24–27? (for reference: Zarepath–1 Kings 17:8–16; Naaman–2 Kings 5:1–14)

11. The reaction of the people to Jesus went from amazement (vs. 22) to fury (vs. 28). What caused the change in their reaction?

Day 4: Read Luke 4:31–37.

12. Name the similarities and differences between Jesus' experience in Nazareth (vss. 14–30) and his experience in Capernaum (vss. 31–37).

13. Why were the people in Capernaum impressed with Jesus?

Day 5: Read Luke 4:38–44.

14. How has Jesus' life changed from the beginning of this chapter to the end?

15. Why do you think Jesus went to a solitary place? (vs. 42)

16. What do you do when you are faced with many demands?

17. What one thought about Jesus will you carry away from this chapter?

“FOLLOW ME”**Responding to Christ’s Call Luke 5**

“It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” Luke 5:31, 32

Day 1: Read Luke 5:1–11.

1. What characterizes Simon Peter’s first recorded response to Jesus? (vs. 5) What happened next? Recall a time when obedience to God’s word led to unexpected blessing for you.
2. Why do you think Simon Peter says what he does in verse 8? What is Jesus’ response?
3. What previous contact had Simon Peter had with Jesus? (Luke 4:38, 39; John 1:35–42) What role did John the Baptist play in his coming to Jesus?
4. How do the lives of Simon Peter, James, and John change on the day mentioned in verses 1–11? Can you think of some things that you would have to “leave behind” to be a true follower of Christ?

Day 2: Read Luke 5:12–16.

5. What characterized Jesus’ response to the man with leprosy? (See the parallel account in Mark 1:40–45.) What light does Mark 1:45 shed on the reason that news about Jesus spread all the more? How does this explain Jesus’ warning to the healed man?
6. What does Jesus do in verse 16 and what lesson can we learn from it?

Day 3: Read Luke 5:17–26.

7. What was different about the circumstances in verse 17 and in Mark 6:5, 6? Why was there this difference?

8. What were Jesus' first words to the paralyzed man?
 - A. Why did he say this when it was so obvious that his friends had gone to such extraordinary lengths to get his physical healing?

 - B. When Jesus said this, what was he claiming?

 - C. How do we know that the Pharisees understood what he was claiming?

9. Give several reasons why Jesus healed the paralytic. What do you think was the primary reason? What lesson do we learn from this?

10. How does Jesus identify himself in verse 24? What does this name tell us about him? (Mark 8:31) What else would this name have triggered in the first century Jewish mind? (Dan. 7:13, 14)

Day 4: Read Luke 5:27–32.

11. As a tax collector what kind of reputation did Levi have? (See Luke 3:12, 13)

12. What words of Jesus does Levi (later called Matthew) add to his account of his banquet? (Matt. 9:13) How is this especially appropriate for the Pharisees and teachers of the law?

13. What did Peter see about himself (vs. 8) that the Pharisees refused to see? What response does Jesus give to this? (vss. 31, 32)

Day 5: Read Luke 5:33–39.

14. Who is the John mentioned in verse 33? What about John's message might have led his disciples to fast? (Luke 3:3) Why did Jesus consider it not appropriate for his disciples to fast while he was with them?

15. If Jesus is the bridegroom, than who is the bride? (See Ephesians 5:25)

16. Can you explain what the parables about the patched garment and the wineskins (vss. 36–39) have to do with the celebrations of Jesus and his disciples?

“FOLLOW ME”**Lord of the Sabbath Luke 6:1–26**

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets.” Luke 6:20–23

Day 1: Read Luke 6:1–6.

1. Confrontations between Jesus and his enemies tended to cluster around Sabbath days. (Luke 6:1, 6; 13:10; 14:1; John 5:10–19; 9:14–16) Why do you suppose that was?
2. What had God intended regarding the Sabbath? (Ex. 20:8–11; Isa. 58:13, 14; Mk. 2:27; 12:28–31) How does Matt. 11:28–30 expand our understanding of the Sabbath? (Heb. 4:9, 10)
3. How had the teachers of the law corrupted God’s commands? (Matt. 15:1–9; 23:23, 24) Why do you think they did this? (Matt. 23:28) In what areas of your life have you seen this same struggle?
4. Considering questions 2 and 3, who were the real Sabbath-breakers—Jesus or the Pharisees? (reflect on vs. 9)

Day 2: Read Luke 6:1–11.

5. In Luke 6:1ff the Pharisees didn’t see 13 tired and hungry men but 13 lawbreakers; in 6:6ff they didn’t see the suffering (and then joy) of a healed man but a Sabbath-violator. How do our hearts determine how we “see” people?
6. In truth, the Sabbath was not the issue; it was the excuse. Jesus was the issue. How do we know that? (vs. 7) What was the Pharisees response to Jesus? (vs. 11) Why did they respond this way?
7. Can you think of any contemporary social controversies that seem to be about issues and reason but that are really about rejection and hatred of God?

Day 3: Read Luke 6:12–16.

8. Though he had more wisdom than any man, what did Jesus do before making big decisions? (vs. 12)
9. After a whole night of praying about it, what kind of people did Jesus come up with to make into disciples? (e.g., Mk 2:14–16) Were they the most intelligent, the most moral, the most promising people around? (See 1 Cor 1:26, 27) How does that strike you?

Day 4: Read Luke 6:17–26.

10. Taken out of context, “Blessed are the poor” might sound like poverty in itself has merit. How do the beatitudes in the subsequent verses (as well as Matt. 5:3) fine-tune our interpretation of 6:20?
11. What Godly values are reflected in the beatitudes? (vss. 20–26) How do these contrast with your own values?
12. What do you really think of these beatitudes in vss. 20–26? Might “Blessed are the rich” be a more honest bumper sticker on your car?
13. Why do you suppose it’s so hard for the rich to enter the kingdom of God? (Luke 18:25)
14. What is your reaction to people who hate you, insult you, ostracize you? Why aren’t we glad? What are we missing? (vs. 23)

Day 5: Read Luke 6:17–26.

15. These sayings contrast two kinds of people: One is people who get what they want, are well liked, and are satisfied with earth. What’s the other kind? (See Hebrews 11:13–16, 25, 26, 39)
16. What is the happy “trade-off” we make as followers of Jesus? (Rom. 8:18; Heb. 11:25, 26; 1 Peter 5:10)

8. Why might Jesus have compared someone who judges with a blind man? How can teachers also be like blind men? What warning should those of us who lead or teach heed from this passage?

Day 3: Read Luke 6:43—45.

9. What is Jesus comparing a tree to in this passage? What does fruit symbolize?
10. What factors determine a good harvest for trees? What factors might determine a harvest of good deeds for people? (Galatians 6:7—9; Hebrews 12:11)

Day 4: Read Luke 6: 46—49.

11. Describe the person who calls, “Lord, Lord” in verse 46. Who is Jesus warning here?
12. What foundation does this person have for his life? How would this play out in everyday modern life? What is the danger of continuing to live this way? (Matthew 7:21-23)
13. In contrast, what is the man who digs deep and lays his foundation on a rock like? Give an example of someone you know who lives this way.

Day 5: Read Luke 6:46-49.

14. Thinking about the image of the wise and foolish builders, list some “torrents” in your own life. Don’t forget to include any enemies or those you are tempted to judge.
15. Consider your response during one of the circumstances above. How did your “house” survive the storm? What factors influenced your survival?
16. What changes can you make to improve your ability to weather the next storm? (vs. 47)

“FOLLOW ME”**Faith Luke 7**

“Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.” Luke 7:23
“Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” Luke 7:50

Day 1: Read Luke 7:1–10.

1. In Luke 4:24–27, Jesus explains that his ministry will reach farther than the nation of Israel. How is this confirmed in this passage?
2. Why do you think the centurion sent elders of the Jews to ask Jesus for healing?
3. What is the key word in the request that the Jews made to Jesus? (vs. 4)
4. What request does the centurion relay, through his friends, to Jesus? (vss. 6–8) What is the difference in this request and the request in verse 4?
5. How does Jesus respond to the request of the centurion? Why is Jesus amazed?
6. This is a time of crisis for the centurion. What is revealed about his heart during this time of crisis? What is revealed about your heart in a time of crisis?

Day 2: Read Luke 7:11–17.

7. This is the second story of compassion in this chapter.
 - A. Who is the focus of the first story? Who is the focus of the second story?
 - B. Is this significant? Why or why not?
 - C. Why do you think the short description of the woman’s family is mentioned in verse 12?
8. How did Christ respond to the woman? Give an example of how this has happened in your own life.

Day 3: Read Luke 7:18–35.

9. What question does John instruct his disciples to ask Jesus? Why do you think he would ask this question? (Remember John the Baptist was in prison, Luke 3:19, 20.)
10. Read Isaiah 29:18, 19; 35:5, 6; 61:1. How is Jesus' answer an assurance to John? Did this answer change John's situation? What do you learn from this?
11. Remembering the prediction Simeon gave about Jesus in Luke 2:34, 35, what is Jesus saying in vs. 23?
13. There is a contrast between the response of the people and that of the Pharisees after hearing what Jesus says about John. What caused this contrasting response? (vss. 29, 30)

Day 4: Read Luke 7: 36–50. (*The Simon in this passage is not Simon Peter*)

14. What is the reaction of the Pharisee (Simon) to the actions of the woman?
15. What are Simon's concerns? What are Jesus' concerns?
16. How does Jesus help Simon understand the woman's actions? What does Jesus do for the woman?
17. In what ways are you:
 - A. like Simon?
 - B. like the woman?
 - C. like Jesus?

Day 5: Review.

18. Jesus has had four encounters in this chapter. From these encounters:
 - A. describe ways in which the character of Jesus is revealed.
 - B. describe how the good news is being preached to the poor. (vs. 22)
19. Luke 7 begins and ends with Jesus stating the importance of faith. (vss. 9, 10, 50) How has your faith been deepened and enriched by reading and meditating on this chapter?

“FOLLOW ME”**Hearing the Word****Luke 8:1–39**

“In fear and amazement [the disciples] asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the wind and the waves and they obey him.” Luke 8:25

Day 1: Read Luke 8:1–15.

1. In verse 1 we read that Jesus preached “the good news of the kingdom of God.” Put his message in your own words.
2. When you think of Jesus’ ministry you may picture only him and his disciples going from town to town; but according to verses 2 and 3 who else was with Jesus and what did they do for him? Since Jesus could do miracles why didn’t he just provide for himself?
3. In Luke 8:8 why do you think Jesus ends the parable of the sower with the words “He who has ears to hear, let him hear”?
4. List the phrases in verses 11–15 that contain the word “hear”. If everyone “hears” why aren’t the results the same? (see also vs. 18a)

Day 2: Read Luke 8:5–15.

5. Reread the parable of the sower in verses 5–15. What problem do the people have who are like the soil on the path? (vss. 5, 12)
6. Consider the people who are like the soil on the rock (vss. 6, 13). Name a few specific kinds of testing that could cause someone to fall away.
7. Look at Luke’s words in 8:14. What is there about worries, riches, and pleasures that stunt the growth of God’s word in a person’s heart?
8. According to the parable of the sower what does a good crop depend on? (vss. 8, 15)

Day 3: Read Luke 8:9–21.

9. Why does Jesus speak in parables? Do the parables make Jesus' teachings easier or harder to understand? (See also Matthew 13:10–17.)
10. What connection is there between the parable of the sower and that of the lamp on the stand (vss. 16–18)? Hint: See verses 8b and 18.
11. Explain the message Jesus has for us in the parable of the lamp on the stand.
12. What's the gist of verses 19–21? Is Jesus rejecting his family? (See John 14:21.)

Day 4: Read Luke 8:22–25.

13. Read also Mark 4:40. What detail does Mark add to Jesus' response to the disciples fear?
14. The disciples have seen many people healed—even brought back to life. According to Jesus what is the disciples' problem?
15. What would have prevented the disciples' fearful reaction to the storm? Share an instance from your own life when God gave you faith that overcame fear.

Day 5: Read Luke 8:26–39.

16. What response to Jesus do we see twice in this part of Luke 8? (vss. 25, 35, 37) Why do people respond this way to Jesus?
17. In Luke 8 who recognizes Jesus and understands his power quicker—the disciples or the demons? How can someone recognize Jesus and understand his power and still be devoted to evil? What's the difference between believing in Jesus and trusting Jesus?
18. What is the difference between the responses to Jesus of the demons, the townsfolk, and the healed man? How has being in Christ put you in your "right mind"?
19. What lesson can we learn from Jesus' instructions to the healed man in verses 38 and 39?

“FOLLOW ME”**A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman Luke 8:40–9:17***“Don’t be afraid; just believe....” Luke 8:50b***Day 1: Read Luke 8:40–56.**

1. In Luke 8:40ff Jairus has an urgent problem. What is it?
2. How do you imagine Jairus feels when Jesus is detained?
3. Why do you suppose Jesus is not quicker to the rescue? (For a similar delay, see John 11:5, 6, which even hints that his delay was deliberate!) How does God turn out to be more glorified by Jesus’ delay? (Consider also John 11:4; Mark 9:21–23; Luke 1:37)
4. How do you react when Jesus is “delayed”?

Day 2: Read Luke 8:40–56.

5. What does God accomplish in this incident that would never have been had Jesus arrived “on time”?
6. Why is it better for Jairus’ faith that Jesus tarried in his response? What encouragement do we get when we persevere through hard circumstances?
7. Reflecting on this passage, do you think Jairus’ household underestimated the power of Christ? When might you be tempted to underestimate the power of Christ?
8. What was the purpose of Jesus’ miracle? Why do you think he didn’t heal everyone?

Day 3: Read Luke 8:42–48.

9. How about the woman with the bleeding problem (8:43ff):
 - A. Why do you think it was better for her, in the end, to be healed after 12 years of suffering and failed medical treatment rather than being healed at the beginning of her illness?

B. All the poor woman hoped for was healing, and then she would slip away anonymously into the crowd. How does Jesus give her more than she bargained for? (vss. 45–48)

C. What does Jesus get her to do publicly that perhaps she never dreamed of doing? (vs. 47)
Have you ever shared your own “testimony” like her?

Day 4: Read Luke 9:1–9.

10. Why do you think Jesus tells the apostles not to take anything with them on their first missionary journey? (vs. 3)
11. Does verse 5 show that we are responsible for converting people, or for giving them the gospel?
12. Why is it dangerous to reject the gospel of Christ? (vs. 5; John 3:36)
13. How is Herod a case study in Isaiah 48:22?

Day 5: Read Luke 9:10–17.

14. What happens after the missions trip when Jesus intends to take the twelve away for a little “R & R”? How does Jesus handle the interruption to his schedule and his rest? (vs. 11b)
15. What does Jesus do later that day when there is finally a good excuse (or so the twelve think) to send the crowds away? (vss. 12–17)
16. Why does Jesus have the disciples collect the leftovers? Is he just trying to teach thrift and conservation?
17. Have you ever offered what little you had to God and received back far more?
18. What associations does Jesus' feeding bread to the multitudes bring to mind? (John 6:32–35)

“FOLLOW ME”

Hard Questions

Luke 9:18-62

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say that I am?” Luke 9:20

Day 1: Read Luke 9:18—27.

1. How does Peter’s response to Jesus’ question stand out from the prevailing opinion of the crowd? (vss. 18—20) What does this reveal about Peter? Where did Peter get his insight? (Matthew 16:17)
2. What prophecy does Jesus make while warning the disciples not to make his identity public? (vs. 22) What effect do you think this statement might have had on the disciples? Why do you think Jesus brought it up now?
3. Note how Jesus characterizes the life of a believer in verses 23—27. Choose a few words to describe this commitment. Which one of Jesus’ statements challenges you the most? Why?

Day 2: Read Luke 9:28—36.

4. What three men were the eyewitnesses to Jesus’ mountaintop experience? Which two Old Testament leaders joined Jesus as he prayed? Why do people refer to this incident as “the transfiguration?” (vs. 29)
5. What was Peter tempted to do? (vs. 33) Why might such a thing be inappropriate at this time? (Remember Jesus’ words to Peter in Luke 9:22.) How does God himself set Peter straight?
6. What do you think was the purpose (or purposes) of the transfiguration?

Day 3: Luke 9:37-45.

7. What were the disciples unable to do while Jesus was on the mountain?
8. Who is Jesus addressing in verse 41? Why is he irritated? (See also Matthew 17:19—21 and Mark 9:28, 29)

9. What does this miracle show the people (and us) about Jesus? (vs. 43)

10. What message does Jesus try to communicate to his disciples in the aftermath of this miracle? Why might he have brought it up just then? (See vs. 31 and vs. 40) How do the disciples respond?

Day 4: Read Luke 9:46-55.

11. What common temptation do the disciples fall into in verse 46?

12. What do the questions posed by the disciples in verses 49 and 54 have in common with the temptation in verse 46?

13. What is telling about a person who welcomes children? Contrast that with a person full of self-importance.

14. How are you like the disciples? How is Jesus' view of greatness different from our view?

Day 5: Read Luke 9:57-62.

15. In this passage, Jesus shows he knows the hearts of all his would-be followers. What three loyalties does he address with his statements?
 - A. vs. 58
 - B. vs. 60
 - C. vs. 62

16. When are you most likely to be pulled between earthly and heavenly loyalties?

17. What does following Jesus look like in our culture?

“FOLLOW ME”

Doing the Work of Jesus

Luke 10

“However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10

Day 1: Read Luke 10:1–4.

1. In Luke 9:1–6, 51–55 and 10:1ff, Jesus sends out disciples and others to various villages. What were the purposes of sending out these people ahead of him?
2. What is the harvest and what does Jesus tell the people to do about the harvest? (see also John 4:34–38)
3. What do you think is the implied message in verse 3?
4. What benefit could the traveling instructions be to those who are traveling? (vs. 4)

Day 2: Read Luke 10:5–16.

5. How are the people to live as they travel?
6. What is the message which they are to bring to the towns? Are there any qualifications to this message? Explain.
7. What is the history of Sodom? (Genesis 19:1–23, Jude 7)
8. (*Tyre and Sidon are Gentile cities. Korazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum are Jewish cities where Jesus taught and performed miracles.*) Why is this message to Korazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum so serious in light of this history of Sodom?

Day 3: Read Luke 10:17–24.

9. The 72 were amazed that the demons submitted to them in the name of Jesus. Jesus told them to rejoice that their names were written in heaven. What is the difference and why is this important?
10. Why is Jesus full of joy? When are you full of joy?
11. What is the blessing in verse 23?

Day 4: Read Luke 10:25–37.

12. How did the expert in the law test Jesus?.
13. What is the meaning of “he wished to justify himself?” (vs. 29)
14. Why did Jesus answer with a story?
15. There are a series of questions and answers in this section.
 - A. What was the original question? (vs. 25)
 - B. What was the answer? (vs. 27)
 - C. What was the next question? (vs. 29)
 - D. What was the final answer?
 - E. How is the final answer an outcome of the original question and answer?

Day 5: Read Luke 10: 38–42.

16. Life is full of necessary details.
 - A. Was Jesus telling Martha not to do the necessary details? Explain.
 - B. What is the operative word describing Martha? (vs. 40)
17. What is Jesus’ main point to Martha?
18. How are you like:
 - A. Martha?
 - B. Mary?

Reflection

19. How do you participate in:
 - A. the harvest?
 - B. mercy?
 - C. attention to Jesus?

“FOLLOW ME”

With Him or Against Him? Luke 11

“He who is not with me is against me.” Luke 11:23a

Day 1: Read Luke 11:1–4; Matthew 6:5–15.

1. What are some principles of prayer that Jesus teaches in Matthew 6:5–8? How does he practice what he preaches? (See Lk. 5:16; Mt. 14:23; Mk. 1:35.)
2. Read the Lord’s Prayer in Lk. 11:2–4 and Matthew 6:9–13. List six things that we are to ask God for. Put each request into your own words and make it specific to your own life.

Day 2: Read Luke 11:5–13.

3. What principles of prayer does Jesus teach in verses 5–13?
4. To what kind of person does Jesus’ words in this passage apply? (John 15:7)
5. List some requests of ours that God always responds to with an enthusiastic “Yes.” (For example, see Lk. 11:1, 13; Mark 9:24; 1 John 1:9.) What verse would you add?
6. What does the Holy Spirit (vs. 13) have to do with prayer? (John 16:13; Rom. 8:26)

Day 3: Read Luke 11:14–28.

7. Review some of the responses to the miracles of Jesus that we’ve already studied in Luke 5:26; 7:16; 9:43. In view of these responses why is the argument in Luke 11:15 absurd?
8. Summarize the argument that Jesus uses to prove that he is serving God and not Beelzebub (Satan) as some people claim (vss. 17–22).
9. Consider verse 23—what is the choice we have to make?

10. Read verses 24–26 in light of verse 23. What would have prevented the healed man from being reinhabited by evil spirits?
11. How does Jesus' remark to the woman in verses 27 and 28 echo his words to the disciples in Luke 10:20? According to verse 28, what should we focus on?

Day 4: Read Luke 11:29–36.

12. Why does Jesus refuse to perform a miracle for the doubters?
13. Explain what Jesus means by “the sign of Jonah”? (vss. 16, 29–32; Mt. 12:39–42)
14. When would the light within someone be darkness as Jesus warns in verse 35? What connection do you see between verse 35 and Jesus' words in John 9:39–41?

Day 5: Read Luke 11:37–54.

15. What's the main idea of each of the seven criticisms that Jesus levels at the Pharisees and teachers of the law in this passage:
 - A. (vss. 39–41)
 - B. (vs. 42)
 - C. (vs. 43)
 - D. (vs. 44; Numbers 19:16)
 - E. (vs. 46)
 - F. (vss. 47–51)
 - G. (vs. 52)
16. In his dealings with people Jesus is never a “scold.” Why then does he have such harsh words as these for the Pharisees and experts in the law? Could Jesus have directed any of his words in this passage to you?
17. What impact do Jesus' words have on his audience, and what does his audience's reaction reveal about their hearts? What impact do Jesus' words have on you?

“FOLLOW ME”**Seeking First the Kingdom Luke 12:1-48**

“But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.” Luke 12:31

(Read Day 5 before starting this lesson.)

Day 1: Read Luke 12:1–12.

1. In verses 1–3, Jesus warns against hypocrisy.
 - A. How do verses 2 and 3 help “unpack” what hypocrisy is?

 - B. How does yeast act, and how might hypocrisy act like yeast?

 - C. What will become of every unsavory secret and bit of gossip one day? (vss. 2, 3)

2. The only choice in this life is between “fear of man” and “fear of the Lord”. According to verses 4–7, why is fear of the Lord the wiser choice?

3. How do verses 6 & 7 make it clear that the “fear” we ought to have of God is not the same as the cringing fear before an ogre?

4. In a world where we often feel unknown and misunderstood, what is the great encouragement of the amazing detail in verse 7a?

5. Why is there no such thing, according to verses 8–10, as “private religion” that minds its own business and doesn’t speak up about Christ? Do you acknowledge Christ before your neighbors and associates, or do you shrink back in certain circles?

6. Why not stop here and pray over verses 11 and 12.

Day 2: Read Luke 12:13–21.

7. How do we know that the man in verse 13 wasn’t paying attention to what Jesus just said in verses 6 & 7? What about you: Is there any kind of greed in your life that you’d better watch out for and repent of?

8. Have you found it to be true, as verses 15 and 23 say, that your life is not necessarily more full when you amass more clothes and other possessions? What is true living? (John 17:3)

9. With verse 15 in mind, critique the bumper sticker, “Whoever dies with the most toys wins.”

10. In Jesus' parable, what was the rich man's serious miscalculation? (vs. 20)

Day 3: Read Luke 12:22–34.

11. How do the birds and flowers around us remind us of God's care for us? (vss. 24, 27, 28).
Animal rights groups notwithstanding, who are more important to God — birds or people? (vs. 24)

12. What does verse 29 say not to set our heart on? What, then, should we set our heart on? (vs. 31)

13. Does that mean we shouldn't work hard to provide for our family and others in need? (vs. 35; 2 Thess. 3:10)

Day 4: Read Luke 12:35–48.

14. When will Jesus return? (vs. 40)

15. What will it be good for Jesus to "catch" you doing when he returns? (vss. 35, 43) So when should you start doing it, since you don't know when he's coming back?

16. Compare the person in verse 37a to the man in verses 16–20.

17. What fatal slumber or deluded mindset might people succumb to because Jesus is "delayed"? (vs. 45; 2 Peter 3:3–13). What is the danger of it? (vs. 46)

18. What amazing picture of Christ do we get in verse 37b as the reward for those who are found serving at his return? What else does he promise? (vs. 44)

19. How are verses 47 and 48 a wake-up call to us who live in America and belong to Women's Bible Study and who have so much knowledge of Jesus Christ?

Day 5: Review Luke 12:1–48.

20. Pick a verse that really spoke to you this week. Write a sentence or two to summarize the impact this verse has made in your life.

“FOLLOW ME”

Deciding for Christ Luke 12:49–13

“Why don’t you judge for yourselves what is right?” Luke 12:57

Day 1: Read Luke 12:49–13:8.

1. Read this entire section as a whole and jot down what you think is Jesus’ main idea.
2. In verses 49 and 50, Jesus mentions *fire*, *baptism* and *division*. What comes to mind when you hear each of these words? Why is Jesus distressed?
3. In what sense does Jesus not bring peace on earth? (vss. 51–53) What sort of peace does he bring? (Luke 2:14; John 14:27; 16:33; Romans 5:1)

Day 2: Read Luke 12:49–13:8.

4. What is more important than interpreting the weather? (vss. 54–57)
5. What is Jesus warning about in the two incidents mentioned in verses 13:1–5?
6. How does the parable of the fig tree (13:6–8) illustrate Jesus’ main idea?

Day 3: Read Luke 13:10–20.

7. Recall Jesus’ other Sabbath activities. (Luke 6:1–10) Look at the actions and words of Jesus, the people he healed, and the onlookers. What, if anything, is different about this incident?
8. How does Jesus point out the hypocrisy of his opponents?
9. What do seeds and yeast have in common?
10. What do these mini-parables show us about the kingdom of God?

11. How do you think of the kingdom of God?

Day 4: Read Luke 13:22–30.

12. Thinking about the sermon in Luke 12:35–13:8, why do you think the question in verse 23 was raised? What is Jesus’ implied answer? What might have been a more pertinent, personal question?

13. Read about doors and gates in Luke 11:9, 10, John 10:1–10, and Matthew 7:13, 14.

A. What is the function of any door?

B. What does Jesus mean by “narrow door”?

C. How does one enter the narrow door?

14. What two insights into the kingdom of God can you glean from verses 29 and 30?

Day 5: Read Luke 13:31–35.

15. Who warned Jesus about Herod? How did Jesus respond?

16. Who is Jesus lamenting for when he calls out, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...” in verses 34, 35?

17. What event is Jesus hinting at in:

A. verse 35 (see also Luke 19:36–38):

B. verse 33 (see also Hebrews 13:12):

C. verse 32 (see also Luke 24:46):

18. Look back over the whole passage and note the passion with which Jesus speaks. What response does this stir in your own heart?

“FOLLOW ME”

Who will come and follow?

Luke 14

“Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.” Luke 14:15
“Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?” Luke 14:34

Day 1: Read Luke 14:1–6.

1. What is the atmosphere of this Sabbath meal?
2. Who are the other attendees at the meal? Why was this significant?
3. What does Jesus do for the man? What is the point of his questions to the Pharisees?
(Dropsy refers to bodily swelling due to an excess of fluid; an indication of a malfunction in the body. Dropsy was often thought to be among the indigent and the marginalized of society.)
4. Why do you think the Pharisees were silent? (Reread Luke 13:10–17)
5. What do you think Jesus is trying to teach the Pharisees?

Day 2: Read Luke 14:7–14.

6. First, Jesus was being watched. Now, who is doing the watching and being watched?
7. Why might the seating be so important to the Pharisees?
8. Jesus gives two separate responses to the seating issue. Identify:
 - A. Who is Jesus addressing in vs. 7 and vs. 12?
 - B. What instructions does Jesus give about taking a seat (vss. 8, 10) and what are his reasons for these? (vss. 9, 10b, 11)
 - C. How did Jesus demonstrate these attitudes in his life?
 - D. How do you demonstrate these attitudes in your life?

Day 3: Read Luke 14:15–24.

9. What do you learn about the host (vs. 16) in this section?
10. What does this parable teach about the kingdom of God in heaven, and on earth?
11. How can we apply verse 23 in our lives today?
12. If this is a story about God’s kingdom, is it consistent with God’s promise to bless all nations through Abraham and ultimately through Jesus? (Genesis 12:2, 3) Is extending the promise of salvation to people outside of the Jewish faith an afterthought because of the rejection by the Jewish establishment? (Meditate on Ephesians 2:4–10)

Day 4: Read Luke 14:1–24.

13. Review Jesus’ behavior at the Sabbath meal. How would you have viewed Jesus if you had been the host? In your sense of social etiquette, would Jesus fit? Explain.
14. Jesus used a common occurrence (Sabbath meal) to teach several insights into God’s kingdom. Has there been a common event in your life that has personally clarified an insight into God’s kingdom? Please be prepared to share with the class.
15. Where do you struggle with wanting the “favorite” position/place?
16. On what basis do you offer your home, your resources, or yourself to other people?

Day 5: Read Luke 14:25–35.

17. In what context is the word hate used? How would you describe the intent of vss. 25–27?
18. How do vss. 28–35 help to increase our understanding of following Jesus?
19. When did you realize that following Jesus would be costly? Why does your commitment to Christ continue?

“FOLLOW ME”**Lost and Found****Luke 15**

“This son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” Luke 15:24

Day 1: Read Luke 15:1–7.

1. In verse 2, what picture of the Pharisees and teachers of the law does the word “mutter” convey?
2. To whom does Jesus address the three parables in this chapter?
3. In the parable of the lost sheep what is Jesus’ message, both spoken and unspoken, to the religious leaders? Is there such a thing as a “righteous person who does not need to repent?”

Day 2: Read Luke 15:1–10.

4. What does Jesus want to communicate through the parable of the lost coin?
5. What is the Pharisee’s attitude toward sinners? What is God’s attitude toward sinners? Which attitude do you see more often in yourself?
6. In the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin, what do the lost sheep and the lost coin have to do to be found? Who puts forth all the effort to find them?
7. What do these parables—the lost sheep and the lost coin—teach about repentance?

Day 3: Read Luke 15:11–32.

8. In the parable of the lost son, who is represented by each of the three main characters: the lost son? the father? the older son?
9. In verses 12 and 13 what is the younger son’s main desire? Where does following his own desires lead him?
10. What similarities and differences are there between how repentance is pictured in the three parables in Luke 15?

11. What brought the lost son to his senses? What things has God used to bring you to your senses?

Day 4: Read Luke 15:11–32.

12. Describe the lost son's heart in verses 17–20.

13. Read about Judas in Matthew 27:3–5 and then read about David in Psalm 51 (see also 2 Cor. 7:10). Describe the difference between remorse and repentance. What word best describes the lost son in verses 18–21?

14. Can you recall a time when you regretted a sin, even were remorseful, but didn't actually repent? What would you have had to do to repent?

15. What happens first to the lost son—suffering or repentance? Recall a time when God used suffering to change your heart.

16. How do the son's expectations of his father's welcome differ from what really happens? Jot down some adjectives that describe the father.

Day 5: Read Luke 15:25–32.

17. In view of Jesus' audience why does Jesus expand the parable of the lost son to include the "parable of the older brother"?

18. What is wrong with the older brother's response to the younger brother's return? What was wrong all along with the heart attitude of the older brother?

19. How does the older brother's attitude in verse 29 mirror the attitude of Jesus' listeners? Of what sins and attitudes does the older brother have to repent? How about the religious leaders? How about you?

20. How is verse 32 a picture of a sinner's conversion? (See also Rom. 6:13 and Eph. 2:1, 4, 5.)

“FOLLOW ME”

Shrewdness, Money, and Eternal Dwellings Luke 16

“...so that you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings” Luke 16:9

Day 1: Read Luke 16:1–9.

1. In this parable Jesus holds up the actions of a scoundrel as, in some sense, an example of how Christians should live! Describe the manager’s scheme and jot down what you think Jesus has in mind.

Day 2: Read Luke 16:1–9.

2. Why does Jesus commend the man for being “shrewd”? (Multiple choice)
 - A. Because sometimes you have to be a little underhanded to survive.
 - B. Because he was kind to his master’s debtors.
 - C. Because the man was smart enough to see the seriousness of his predicament, to face the fact squarely, and to take steps to save himself.
3. When you are in big trouble because of your sin, what’s the smart (or “shrewd”) thing to do? (Multiple choice)
 - A. Adopt a wait-and-see policy; things may look better tomorrow.
 - B. Clean up your act before coming to God (about two weeks).
 - C. Soberly face the fact of your situation, and throw yourself on the mercy of the only One who can save you.
4. What issues in your life right now are you not facing squarely, and not coming to Christ with?

Day 3: Read Luke 16:1–9.

5. Jesus himself gives the meaning of this difficult parable in verse 8: the Christian should be as wise in dealing with his spiritual crises as other people are in dealing with worldly crises. The shrewd manager ran to the only resources he had. When you find yourself in big trouble (whether a struggle with sin, problems with kids, marital problems, a serious illness, etc.) what resources do you have to run to? Hebrews 4:16; Matt. 11:28–30
6. As you consider your own problems—whether financial, marital, or other—are there really any that are NOT spiritual? Explain.

Day 4: Read Luke 16:9–14.

7. Of course we cannot buy salvation; it is the free gift of God, merited by Christ for us. (Rev. 5:9b) Nevertheless, in what sense can Christians invest “worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it goes, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings”? (Matt. 25:34–40; Philippians 4:16, 17)
8. The righteous man sees money in its proper perspective as no more than a resource to be used to lay up riches in heaven. (vs. 9) How does the unrighteous man relate to money? (Sift through verses 10–15)
9. What happens when you try to serve two masters? (vs. 13) Are there other “masters” in your life right now (e.g., money, a sense of being entitled, a desire to control, etc.) that are pulling you away from single-heartedly serving God?
10. What kinds of things that are highly valued among men are detestable in God’s sight? (vs. 15)
11. How is the shrewd man in the parable (verses 1ff) like the “forceful” people of verse 16? (See also Matt. 11:12)

Day 5: Read Luke 16:19–31.

12. The parable of the rich man and Lazarus continues the teaching on money and worldly resources in this chapter. How did the rich man’s failure to live according to verse 9 contribute to his doom? (Is Lazarus able to put in a good word for him?)
13. How does this parable illustrate Luke’s pervasive theme of “great reversals”? (See 1:52ff; 6:20–26; 16:25) What kind of consolation do you have in all life’s sufferings? (e.g., 2 Corinthians 4:17; Psalm 23; Hebrews 13:5b)
14. What impression do you get of hell in this parable? Is death just a long sleep, as many people like to believe? Is there anyone you want to warn?
15. According to verses 27–31, what is it that produces faith in people?

“FOLLOW ME”**Discipling the Disciples****Luke 17**

"The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" Luke 17:5

Day 1: Read Luke 17:1–6.

1. What reality is Jesus talking to his disciples about in these verses?
2. “Things that cause people to sin” can also be translated “stumbling blocks” or “traps.” What sorts of stumbling blocks do you encounter in your everyday life?
3. What are we to watch out for? (vss. 2, 3) What things do you do that might cause someone to stumble?
4. Compare verses 3 and 4 to the parable of the lost son (Luke 15:11 ff.) Which character in the parable struggles with unforgiveness? How does the father acknowledge his concern?
5. What do you think motivates the disciples to cry out in verse 5? How does Jesus’ answer acknowledge their concern? What does his answer teach us about “impossible” things like forgiveness?

Day 2: Read Luke 17:7–10.

6. Describe the mindset of a worthy servant or employee.
7. Describe the mindset of Jesus. (See Philippians 2:5–11, for example)
8. What, therefore, should the mindset of a disciple of Jesus be like?

Day 3: Read Luke 17: 11–19.

9. What is the message of this story for the Jews? What is its message for Gentiles?

10. Which gives evidence of faith: the healing of the body or the gratefulness of the soul? What do you think Jesus means by “well” in verse 19?

Day 4: Read Luke 17:20–37.

11. What don't the Pharisees understand about the kingdom of God?

12. What does the “day(s) of the Son of Man” stand for? (vss. 22, 24, 26, 30)

13. What confusion did the disciples seem to have?

14. How were the days of Noah and Lot alike? (vss. 26–29) What picture does this give us of Christ's return?

Day 5: Read Luke 17:30–37.

15. Explain verse 33 in the context of verses 30–37.

16. Think about verse 33 in light of Jesus' teaching on forgiveness, gratefulness and serving earlier in the chapter. In what ways are forgiving and serving others and thanking God examples of “losing your life”?

17. Compile a brief description of a disciple of Jesus based solely on the information in this chapter. Ask God to conform your life to this high calling.

“FOLLOW ME”

Prayer and Faith Luke 18

“I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” Luke 18:17

Day 1: Read Luke 18:1–8.

1. Describe the judge in this passage.
2. How is God like and unlike the judge?
3. Compare Luke 11:7 and Luke 18:1, 5. What point is Jesus making about prayer?
4. Women had no real authority or presence in this culture. Jesus uses a woman, not only a woman but a widow, as the one who kept coming before the judge. Why is this significant?
5. What is Jesus asking in verse 8? (see Matthew 24:12, 13)

Day 2: Read Luke 18:9–14.

6. Write the Pharisee’s prayer in your own words.
7. How is the description of the tax collector and his prayer different than the description and prayer of the Pharisee?
8. Who is Jesus directing this parable to in verse 9? Would you ever place yourself in this category? If so, how did it affect your relationship with God and people?

Day 3: Read Luke 18:15–29.

9. What might be some reasons that the disciples rebuked the people for bringing their babies to Jesus?

10. What did the ruler ask Jesus? (vs. 18) How did Jesus reply? (vs. 19) What attitude did the ruler seem to have in verse 21?
11. What caused sadness for the ruler? Why?
12. What can be learned from Jesus' response to the ruler (vss. 24, 25) and His response to the children (vss. 16, 17)?
13. How is salvation obtained (vs. 27) and what can be the cost to you (vss. 29, 30)?

Day 4: Read Luke 18:31–43.

14. Jesus explains what will be His cost to obey God. (vss. 31–33) What was the reaction of the disciples? Are there ways that you feel you do not understand Jesus? What means of grace has God given us to help us understand?
15. What is the purposeful desire of the blind man? How do you know what his desire is?
16. What question did Jesus ask the blind man? How would you answer that question?

Day 5: Read Luke 18:1–43.

17. At first glance each of the sections in this chapter seem to be separate stories or events. As you study this chapter notice how each story and event are linked to each other. What links have you noticed?
18. What have you learned about faith and prayer in this chapter?

“FOLLOW ME”**Worshipping the King Luke 19**

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.” Luke 19:10

Days 1 and 2: Read Luke 19:1–10.

1. Compare Luke 18:18–27 with Luke 19:2–9; what link do you see between these chapters?
2. Picture Jesus’ encounter with Zacchaeus. How would you characterize Jesus’ attitude towards him?
3. How does Zacchaeus change on the day that he meets Jesus?
4. How is Jesus’ interaction with Zacchaeus a graphic illustration of Jesus’ words in verse 10?
5. Share how Jesus came to seek and save you.

Day 3: Read Luke 19:7–27.

6. What word in verse 7 describes the attitude of the people towards Jesus’ choice of a “sinner” as his host? If they designated Zacchaeus as a “sinner,” how did they probably view themselves?
7. Reread Luke 15:1–7, what similarities do you see between Jesus’ reply to the muttering Pharisees and Jesus’ reply to the muttering people of Jericho?
8. What light does verse 11 shed on the reason for Jesus’ telling of “the parable of the ten minas”?
9. Minas are a monetary unit, but what could the minas represent? How can you be more trustworthy with what God has entrusted to you?

10. What do you think Jesus means by his words in verse 26?

11. How does this parable accomplish its stated purpose in verse 11? What does Jesus want his listeners to learn through this parable?

Day 4: Read Luke 19:28–44.

12. We never read of Jesus riding an animal before this; why does he suddenly choose to ride into Jerusalem? (See Zechariah 9:9.)

13. Often during his time on earth, Jesus drew away from people, shunning attention, why does he act so differently now?

14. In verse 39 what do the Pharisees want Jesus to rebuke his disciples for?

15. What does Jesus mean by his reply: “If they keep quiet the stones will cry out” (vs. 40)?

Day 5: Read Luke 19:41–48.

16. What strong emotions does Jesus express in verses 41 through 46. Describe the circumstances of each.

17. Jesus cleanses the “court of the Gentiles” which had been turned into a noisy marketplace. What light does this fact shed on his use of the passage (vs. 46) from Isaiah 56:6, 7?

18. Where is God’s temple today? (2 Cor. 6:19) Is the temple still in need of cleansing? How does God cleanse his temple today?

“FOLLOW ME”**Questions and Answers Luke 20**

“The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone.” Luke 20:17b

Day 1: Read Luke 20:1–8.

1. Unable to find fault with Jesus’ actions, his enemies now resort to questioning his authority. What does Jesus’ manner of reply (vss. 3, 4) tell you about him? (e.g., Job 38:1, 3)
2. How does Jesus’ counter-question pose a dilemma for his would-be entrappers?
3. How does his reply in verse 8 show that he is aware of their duplicity? Throughout this chapter, see how Jesus exemplifies his own counsel of Matthew 10:16.

Day 2: Read Luke 20:9–19.

4. The teachers and priests perceive that this parable is against them. (vs. 19)
 - A. Who are they in this parable? (vs. 10)
 - B. Who is represented by the vineyard owner of verse 9? (Isaiah 5:1ff)
 - C. Who are the series of servants dispatched by the owner to the tenants? (vss. 10–12, see also Matt. 23:29–37.)
5. How is the teaching of this parable like that of the banquet parable we read in Luke 14? (See especially 14:23 and 20:16)
6. If the reason for losing out on the kingdom in the Luke 14 parable is indifference to the things of God, what is the reason for losing out on the kingdom in this Luke 20 parable? (Consider vs. 14.)
7. Who are the “other tenants” to whom God gives his “vineyard” when the original ones reject him? (Acts 13:46) What is required of anyone in order to enter the kingdom? (Galatians 3:6–9)
8. Whom does the apostle Peter identify as “the stone” of verse 17? (Acts 4:10, 11)

9. A “capstone” or “cornerstone” is the most important stone of a building or other structure. (vs. 17) A stone is also something one might trip over, or something strong enough to break another thing.(vs. 18) How is Jesus like all these things?

Day 3: Read Luke 20:20–26.

10. How is the question in verse 22 crafted to entrap Jesus? What would his enemies have accused him of if he had answered “yes”? If he had answered “no”?
11. On the basis of this incident, what is your duty to civil government under God? Does that agree with Romans 13:1? Is there ever a time when you should disobey your government? (Acts 4:19)

Day 4: Read Luke 20:27–40.

12. The Sadducees are “in error” (Matt. 22:29) in that their question to Jesus is based on wrong premises. What are the Sadducees wrong or ignorant about? (vss. 34–38; Matt. 22:29–32)
13. What are two ways in which life after the resurrection will be different from life in this present world? (vss. 30–34)

Day 5: Read Luke 20:41–47.

14. Now Jesus becomes the questioner: How would you answer his questions in verses 41 and 44?
15. Why do the priests and teachers of the law give no answer to Jesus’ question? What would they have to admit in order to answer the question correctly?
16. Why do you suppose Jesus uses this occasion to warn people of the teachers of the law? What does Jesus perceive as underlying their outwardly pious questions? (vss. 46ff)
17. What do the teachers of the law love? (vss. 46, 47) What does Jesus love? (Psalm 45:7) what do you love?

“FOLLOW ME”

Watchfulness Luke 21

*“Even so, when you see these things happening,
you know that the kingdom of God is near. Luke 21:31*

Day 1: Read Luke 21:1–4.

1. At the temple, Jesus takes the role of an observer. What does he notice in verses and 2?

2. In commending the widow, what does Jesus show he values most in a giver? (See also 2 Corinthians 9:6–7.)

3. What lasting impression does this story have on you?

Day 2: Read Luke 21:5–28.

4. What were the disciples focusing on in verse 5? How does Jesus draw their attention to his message?

5. Notice the two things the disciples ask for in verse 7. How do you think they would want Jesus to respond? Look at how he actually answers their questions:
 - A. List the answers to the “when” question in verses 8-28.

 - B. List the signs Jesus alerts his disciples to look for in verses 8–28.

Day 3: Read Luke 12:5–28.

(These prophecies are understood to refer to both the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. and time before Jesus’ Second Coming.)

6. All these warnings and predictions may have frightened or confused the disciples. Look for and write down the words of comfort Jesus entwines in his prophecy.

7. In what sense are we living in the last days already? How are the warnings in this passage applicable in your everyday life?

8. Summarize Jesus' sermon in one sentence.

Day 4: Read Luke 21:29–32.

9. What commonsense principle does the parable of the fig tree teach?

10. In what two ways can the word “generation” be interpreted...
 - Aregarding the temple destruction?

 - B. ...regarding the days before Jesus' return?

Day 5: Read Luke 21:34–38.

11. What trap are we warned about in this passage? (vs. 34)

12. Who needs to be alert to the coming of Jesus? (vs. 35)

13. Think about Jesus retiring each night to the Mount of Olives to pray and rest. As you prepare to sleep tonight, reread his words in verse 36 and incorporate them in to your evening prayer.

“FOLLOW ME”**The Beginning of the End****Luke 22:1-62***“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” Luke 22:42***Day 1: Read Luke 22:1, 14–16.**

1. What is the Passover? (Exodus 12:1-30)
2. What is the purpose of the Passover lamb?
3. Why might Jesus be “eager” to eat this Passover meal?
4. How will the Passover find “fulfillment in the kingdom of God”? (vs. 16)

Day 2: Read Luke 22:2-6.

5. What is keeping the chief priests and the teachers of the law from killing Jesus? What caused such fear? (Luke 19:47, 48)
6. How can Luke 4:13 be linked with Luke 22:3-6?
7. John 12:4-6 gives a glimpse into the Judas’ character. With this in mind, was Judas simply a victim? Please explain your answer.

Day 3: Read Luke 22:7-23.

8. How does Jesus prepare the disciples for the change in the meaning of the Passover with the symbolic use of bread and wine? (vss. 19, 20)
9. A Biblical covenant is a promise between God and His people. What is the ‘new covenant’ mentioned in verse 20? (Reference: Jeremiah 31:31-33, Hebrews 10:11-18)

Day 4: Read Luke 22:19-38; 54-62.

11. How is Jesus preparing the disciples for his upcoming death and resurrection? (vss. 19-23)
12. How do the disciples respond? What does their response reveal about their hearts? (vs. 24)
13. What is the main point of verses 25-30?
14. Read verses 54-62.
 - A. How does Peter respond to the accusations in the courtyard?
 - B. What happened when Jesus looked at Peter? (vss. 61, 62)
 - C. How does this contrast with how Peter viewed himself in verse 33?
 - D. Describe a time when you have been like Peter. What was your response to your actions?
15. What did Jesus pray for Peter? (vs. 32) What does it teach you about Satan's desire for those who follow Christ? How does it offer hope?

Day 5: Read Luke 22:39-53.

16. Why would Jesus tell the disciples to "pray that you will not fall into temptation"?
17. What is striking about Jesus' question to Judas? (vs. 48)
18. What is the meaning of Jesus' statement and action? (vs. 51)
19. What clear truth does Jesus speak to those who came for him? (vss. 52, 53)
20. This is the beginning of Jesus' suffering. Meditate on verses 41-44. How does it touch your heart?

“FOLLOW ME”**The First Good Friday****Luke 22:63—23:49***“From now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God.” Luke 22:69***Day 1: Read Luke 22:63—23:49.**

1. Give titles to each of the paragraphs in this week’s passage:

A. 22:63–65	F. 23:26–32
B. 22:66–71	G. 23:33–38
C. 23:1–7	H. 23:39–43
D. 23:8–12	I. 23:44–49
E. 23:13–25	

Day 2: Read Luke 22:63—23:12.

2. In this passage Jesus appears before various individuals. List these individuals, the questions they ask, and Jesus’ responses.
3. What kind of person does Jesus not respond to? What is the lesson in this for us?
4. What do the chief priests and teachers of the law understand that Jesus is claiming by his words in 22:69, 70?

Day 3: Read Luke 23:1–25.

5. What are the official charges leveled against Jesus by his accusers?
6. What two things does Pilate do to avoid dealing with Jesus? (See Luke 23:5–7 and also John 18:31.)
7. Who demands Jesus’ death?
8. List the verses where Pilate proclaims Jesus’ innocence. If Pilate is so convinced that Jesus is innocent why does he finally deliver Jesus to the will of the people?
9. Read Luke 22:53 with 23:25. Explain “your hour” and “their will” in view of God’s sovereignty.

Day 4: Read Luke 23:26–49.

10. Many people witness Jesus' crucifixion. How do the mourners, criminals, rulers, soldiers, the centurion, and Jesus' friends relate to Jesus?

11. What impresses you most about how Jesus relates to people during this time of most intense pain and humiliation?

12. In Luke 23:39–43 there are three crosses. How do the criminals crucified with Christ represent humankind? What is the way of salvation according to these verses?

Day 5: Read Luke 23:32–49.

13. Again and again in Luke, Jesus is called the "Son of Man." What do you think this name has to do with his sufferings? (see Luke 18:31–33)

14. At any time Jesus could have come down off of that cross. Why did he stay there? Why did Jesus have to suffer and die? (see Romans 8:3, 4)

15. During the crucifixion there was total darkness for three hours, from noon until 3 p.m. What do you think the darkness symbolized? (see 2 Corinthians 5:21)

16. What did the tearing of the temple curtain signify? (see Hebrews 10:19–22) What additional detail about the curtain tearing do we read about in Mark 15:38 and what is its significance?

17. On this first Good Friday Jesus suffered for you. Compose a thank-you prayer that expresses your gratitude.

“FOLLOW ME”**Jesus Lives****Luke 23:50—24:53**

“Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” Luke 24:32

Day 1: Read Luke 23:50–56.

1. What do we learn about Joseph of Arimathea in this section? How does he differ from other Jews in authority whom Jesus has recently encountered? (See 22:2–5, 52, 53; 23:10, 35) How did Joseph honor (or serve) Jesus?
2. How were the women intending to honor (or serve) Jesus at the tomb? What prevented them from carrying out their plan that evening?

Day 2: Read Luke 24:1–12.

3. Imagine yourself in the place of these women.
 - A. What might they have been thinking about over the Sabbath?
 - B. What does their early departure on Sunday tell you about them?
 - C. At the dazzling sight of the two angels, what fears could have overcome them?
4. How do the angel’s words both encourage and challenge them?
5. How do the disciples respond to the women’s news?
 - A. According to Luke, which disciple takes action?
 - B. What has this disciple recently experienced that may have moved him to act? (Luke 22:54–62)

Day 3: Read Luke 24:13–35.

6. What do we learn in verses 17 and 18 about the prevailing mood of the people following Jesus’ crucifixion?

7. How does Jesus get these two men to confide in him? (vs. 17) How does he respond to their despair?
8. Think about the two men:
 - A. Why do they not understand that Jesus had been raised from the dead?
 - B. What opens their eyes?
9. Think of a time when you turned to Jesus in despair. How did he comfort you? If you recall your eyes being opened to either the Scriptures or your circumstances, share your example with your group.

Day 4: Read Luke 24:36–53.

10. Do the disciples show evidence of the old adage, “seeing is believing” in this section?
 - A. List the evidence Jesus gives in response to their doubt.
 - B. What finally makes a difference in their faith--physical evidence or understanding the scriptures?
11. What responsibility comes to these new believers? Why do they have to wait? (vss. 47–49)
12. How do the disciples respond to Jesus’ ascension into heaven? What makes this “good-bye” easier than the one at the foot of the cross?

Day 5: Reflection.

13. How has Jesus’ resurrection changed the way we face the death of our loved ones in Christ?
14. Why is Jesus’ resurrection crucial to our faith in him as God’s son? (I Cor. 15:12–20)
15. Many “great reversals” have been revealed throughout the book of Luke, starting with the birth of the Lord of the universe in a stable. List others you can think of. What ultimate reversal did Jesus’ resurrection accomplish?
16. Reread Luke’s goal in writing his gospel in Luke 1:4. Has studying this book helped convince you of the certainty of the gospel? How has this made a difference in your life?