

Key Themes in Saint Luke's Gospel

Temple The Jerusalem Temple plays a prominent role in the Gospel. For centuries the Temple was the locale of God's presence, but now God in Christ dwells on earth and its authority will be challenged.

Righteousness Right relationship before God was based on the commandments (1:6). New righteousness takes shape in one's relationship to Jesus.

The Spirit of God The Spirit plays a prominent role in the Gospel as guiding Jesus and his followers. The Acts of the Spirit will be chronicled in Luke's second volume, the Book of Acts.

Kingdom of God The reign of God on earth accomplished in the person of Jesus Christ

Afraid and Marvel Jesus casts out fear and the people are filled with wonder and joy in his presence which leads them to glorify God.

Word and Table Luke emphasizes the prominent place of the Word and Table fellowship in the life and communities of Jesus

Chapter 1 - The Prophecies & Songs of Birth

Highlighted Verse: 1:76-79

Unlike angels, how does God communicate his plans and promises to you?

What song(s) of faith have been significant/ meaningful for you? In other words, what's the theme song of your faith life?

Chapter 2 - The Childhood of Jesus, the Savior

Highlighted Verse: 2:10-11

Think about Jesus early childhood. What words or events were formative to his identity and development?

What events of your childhood were formative to your faith?

Chapter 20 - Challenging Jesus' Authority

Highlighted Verse: 20:17b (Psalm 118:22)

Why did the scribes and chief priests respond so strongly to Jesus' parable?

Why does Jesus warn us about the scribes? Who are our modern-day scribes?

Chapter 21 - Signs of the Time

Highlighted Verse: 21:28

Often times, Jesus is praised as an accepting teacher, but what signs does Jesus foretell regarding the division he has brought?

Why do think Jesus taught in the Temple even though he was in danger?

Chapter 22 - The Lasts for Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 22:28-30

Why did Jesus say a special prayer for Peter? In verse 61, what do you take this look to mean?

Why did Jesus rebuke the acts of violence during his arrest?

Chapter 23 - The Crucifixion of Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 23:34, 43, 46

In what ways does the narrative emphasize Jesus' innocence and the travesty of justice?

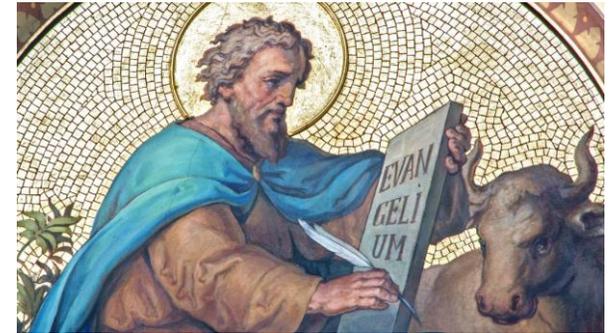
Even as he died, Jesus preached good news. How do Jesus' words from the cross help us interpret the event of the crucifixion?

Chapter 24 - The Dawn of a New Day

Highlighted Verse: 24:5b-7

What can we learn from Saint Luke's emphasis on the words of Jesus as well as Old Testament Scriptures in these post-resurrection scenes?

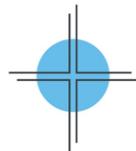
Why do think it was important for Jesus to offer proof of his bodily resurrection?



The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke

+++

Reading Guide



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Through Jesus Christ, we are living the God-fashioned life together.

Culynn Curtis, Pastor

(763) 463-9447 | holycrossmaplelake.org

5460 63rd St. NW, PO Box 462, Maple Lake, MN 55358

Chapter 3 – the Ministry of John the Baptist

Highlighted Verse: 3:22

What made John's preaching so compelling?
What important characters are part of Jesus' genealogy?

Chapter 4 – The Inauguration of Jesus' Ministry

Highlighted Verse: 4:18-19 (Isaiah 61:1-2)

Who accompanies Jesus in his temptation and ministry? Why is this important?
Why did Jesus spend so much time teaching and healing in the synagogues of Galilee?

Chapter 5 – The Expansive Response to Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 5:32

There are two responses to Jesus. What are the two responses to Jesus' ministry?
Who responds in which way?

Chapter 6 – The Teaching of Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 6:5

Why did Jesus ignore human regulations regarding the Sabbath?
Jesus' authoritative teaching describes the Kingdom of God. How are you challenged by his teaching? What is good news for you?

Chapter 7 – The Authority of Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 7:6-7

From these scenes, what do we learn about Jesus' authority? What might this say about his identity?
In the final scene, why do you think Jesus' declaration of forgiveness was so offensive?

Chapter 8 – The Authority of Jesus' Word

Highlighted Verse: 8:39

What is the connection between The Word/Jesus' preaching (8:9-18) and the will of God (8:21)?
How do the following scenes show the power and authority of Jesus' words?

Chapter 9 – Following Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 9:20

How do the disciples participate in the ministry of Jesus and the kingdom of God?
There is a distinct change that takes place halfway through the chapter. What do the confession of Peter, Jesus' preaching, the transfiguration, and the Samaritan village signal about the kingdom of God and Jesus' future?

Chapter 10 – Expanding the Kingdom of God

Highlighted Verse: 10:9b

How do the seventy-two messengers and the disciples fulfill the gracious will of the Father?
What two natures of Kingdom involvement are revealed in the parable of the good Samaritan and Mary's listening?

Chapter 11 – Oppositions to the True Kingdom

Highlighted Verse: 11:28

What did you learn about prayer in verses 1-13?
How does Jesus increase the divide between his kingdom and the opposition of the Pharisees and lawyers?

Chapter 12 – Eternal Security

Highlighted Verse: 12:34

In this chapter, Jesus teaches how temporary security leads to fear; whereas eternal treasure gives lasting security. According to Jesus, what are the things that provide temporary security?
What are those things that give us eternal security?

Chapter 13 – Raising the Stakes

Highlighted Verse: 13:29

How do Jesus' teachings increase both the challenge and the blessing of God's kingdom coming to earth?
Why does Jesus lament over Jerusalem? What is ironic about his mission to get to that city?

Chapter 14 – Kingdom Values

Highlighted Verse: 14:13-14

How do the parables illustrate the unconditional nature of the Kingdom?
Why do we put more value in our personal situations rather than the Kingdom of God?

Chapter 15 – Lost and Found

Highlighted Verse: 15:7

In each of the parables, how do the searchers respond to their finds?
Prodigal is defined as "wastefully extravagant". How do the son, the father, and elder brother express their prodigal nature?

Chapter 16 – Earthly Vanity vs. Eternal Value

Highlighted Verse: 16:31

How does the parable challenge you in regard to your finances?
What purpose do the Law and the Prophets serve for us?

Chapter 17 – The Presence of the Kingdom

Highlighted Verse: 17:21b

How did the Samaritan leper show his faith?
What promise did Jesus make regarding the Kingdom?

Chapter 18 – Kingdom Inheritance

Highlighted Verse: 18:31-33

Why do the children easily inherit the Kingdom when the rich ruler cannot easily receive the Kingdom?
Do you have more in common with the Pharisee and the rich ruler or with tax collector and the blind beggar? Why does that matter?

Chapter 19 – The Arrival of Jesus

Highlighted Verse: 19:9-10

What accolades of Jesus would you shout to welcome Jesus?
What aspects of your lifestyle would Jesus overturn should he come to you?