

# **The Gospel of Luke**

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## **The Gospel of Luke**

### **Class 1: Summary**

Written sometime before 66 AD, The Gospel according to Luke is the most chronologically historical. It is also the longest book in the New Testament, and identified as a synoptic (similar) gospel along with Matthew and Mark. Its authorship is soundly attributed to a physician named Luke who worked closely with Paul. He was likely a Gentile (due to what and how he wrote). The Gospel is addressed to Theophilus, a Greek name translated, “lover of God”. This suggests that the addressee could be to all who love God. The first readers would have been Christians in Asia and Europe, who were Gentiles. Luke’s style of writing is precise and accessible, making it easy for anyone to see that Jesus is the Savior and the need of man to be saved by Him. This book is the first of two narratives; the second being the book of Acts. The author emphasizes the “role-model” humanity of Jesus, and portrayed Christ as the “Son of Man,” a description which appears more than two dozen times in the gospel.

### **Outline**

Luke 1:1 – 4:13 Background and Preparation of Jesus

Luke 4:14 – 9:22 Jesus’ Self-Revealing Ministry

Luke 9:23 – 14:35 Principles of Discipleship

Luke 15:1 – 21:38 Jesus vs. Jerusalem

Luke 22:1 – 24:53 Suffering and Glory of the Christ

### **Parables Unique to Luke**

The Moneylender (7:41-43)

The Good Samaritan (10:30-37)

A Friend in Need (11:5-8)

The Rich Fool (12:16-21)

The Unfruitful Fig Tree (13:6-9)

The Lowest Seat at the Feast (14:7-14)

The Great Banquet (14:16-24)

The Cost of Discipleship (14:28-33)

The Lost Coin (15:8-10)

The Lost (Prodigal) Son (15:11-32)

The Shrewd Manager (16:1-8)

The Rich Man and Lazarus (16:19-31)

The Master and His Slave (17:7-10)

The Persistent Widow (18:2-8)

The Pharisee and Tax Collector (18:10-14)

### **Themes**

The Skeptic’s Confirmation Gospel

Jesus as the Teacher / Healer

Discipleship: Costly - Consuming

Failure of Jerusalem - Her Children

Kingdom Inclusion of Outsiders

The Kingdom of God

Temporal vs. Eternal

Prayer

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### Class 1: Introduction & Preparation of Jesus (Luke 1:1-3:20)

1. In what special manner did Luke say that he wrote this gospel account?
2. What is meant by his term, “the things that have been accomplished”?
3. What do we learn about Zechariah, Elizabeth, and Mary?
4. Describe the occurrences of Gabriel’s appearances to Zechariah and Mary.
5. Contrast the response to Gabriel of Zechariah and Mary.
6. What did Elizabeth say about her pregnancy?
7. How did Gabriel describe the child Mary would bear?
8. Describe Mary’s visit to Elizabeth.
9. What do you learn about God’s plan from Mary’s song?
10. Describe the events concerning the birth of John the Baptist.
11. Name some details of Zechariah’s prophecy concerning his son.
12. What historical names are listed as contemporary to Jesus’ birth?
13. Describe the circumstances of the birth of Jesus.
14. Describe events and individuals when Jesus was first taken to the temple.
15. What do we learn about Jesus when He was 12?
16. Describe the beginning of the ministry of John the Baptist.
17. What about Isaiah’s prophecy concerning John is significant to this gospel’s purpose?
18. Describe John’s response to each group that approaches him.
19. What did John say about Jesus?

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### **Class 2: Jesus' Ministry Begins & Character Unveiled (3:21-5:26)**

#### **Class Objectives**

Identify the purpose/mission of Jesus that he states within Luke 3:21-5:26.

List at least two miracles that affirmed the authority of Jesus, Son of God.

List at least three people who interacted with Jesus and how he changed them.

#### **Questions**

1. What happened at Jesus' baptism?
2. How does Luke trace Jesus' lineage in contrast with Matthew's genealogy?
3. List differences between Luke's account of Jesus' temptations and Matthew's.
4. What did Jesus do and say when he came to Nazareth? How was he received?
5. What did Jesus do in Capernaum on a Sabbath? What did this demonstrate about him?
6. What did Jesus say was necessary for him to do when crowds were looking for him?
7. Why was the crowd pressing in on Jesus?
8. What did Jesus order Peter to do? How did Peter respond to these instructions?
9. What lesson did Peter learn after obeying Jesus command to fish?
10. What did Jesus want from him?
11. What is unique about how Jesus healed the Leper?
12. When Jesus forgave and healed the Paralytic, how did people respond?
13. What was the lesson that Jesus taught in healing the Paralytic?

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### **Class 3: Surprised by Jesus (5:27-7:17)**

#### **Class Objectives**

Identify at least three characters/characteristics exalted by Jesus which we might not expect.

List at least three specific commands of Jesus from 6:27-38.

Be able to tell & explain at least two of the parables/illustrations Jesus used in his teachings.

#### **Questions**

1. Why was it unique that Jesus called Levi to follow him?
2. Describe the response of Jesus that socializing with sinners was a sin.
3. What question was raised concerning fasting? What did Jesus' response teach?
4. How did Jesus answer the accusation that picking and eating grain broke the Sabbath?
5. What did Jews try to do to Jesus on another Sabbath? How did he handle it?
6. How did Jesus prepare to select his apostles? How could the group be described?
7. Why were the crowds coming to Jesus?
8. What did Jesus do when he saw the crowd on the Plain?
9. Who were blessed by Jesus? Who are not blessed?
10. What characteristics and behaviors does Jesus emphasize in the Sermon on the Plain?
11. What motivations and importance does Jesus give about obeying his commands?
12. Who did Jesus help when he returned to Capernaum?
13. What impression do you have about the character of the Centurion?
14. What does the miracle for the person in Nain indicate about Jesus' character?

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### Class 4: Gospel of Luke - "The One" (Luke 7:18 - 9:22)

#### Class Objectives

Show how Jesus is identified as "The One"

Point out the necessity of faith

Answer the question posed by those at the table (7:49), and the disciples (8:25)

#### Questions

1. How does Jesus answer John's question?
2. What does Jesus declare to the sinful woman in the Pharisee's house?
3. Who were some of the women accompanying Jesus?
4. In the Parable of the Sower, what are the four areas where the seed falls?
5. What is the purpose of parables?
6. What does the lamp in 8:16-18 represent?
7. What must you do to be part of Jesus' family?
8. What question does Jesus ask his disciples after calming the windstorm?
9. What does Legion refer to Jesus as?
10. What made the woman well? What does Jesus say for Jairus' daughter to be well?
11. What does Jesus send the twelve Apostles to do?
12. What did Herod think about Jesus?
13. Much can be said about the feeding of the 5,000. What about it is interesting to you?
14. Who does Peter say Jesus is?
15. What does Jesus foretell in 9:22?

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### **Class 5: Following Jesus Is Costly (9:23-10:42)**

#### **Class Objectives**

List five principles necessary for disciples to understand and submit to.

Quote what the Father said on the Mount of Transfiguration.

List at least three facets of the ministry of the seventy-two disciples.

#### **Questions**

1. What consequences are there to follow or not follow Jesus?
2. Give specific details of the Transfiguration? (Compare/contrast with Matthew & Mark.)
3. What lessons concerning Christ are learned from the Transfiguration?
4. Why were the disciples unable to heal the Boy at the foot of the mountain?
5. How did the disciples respond to what Jesus said about his impending death?
6. How did Jesus respond to the dispute between the disciples?
7. What happened when Jesus tried to enter the Samaritan village?
8. What all does Jesus require people to sacrifice if they want to follow him?
9. What was the mission of the 72? What specific instructions did Jesus give?
10. What city does Jesus compare to those who reject the Gospel? Who does Jesus "woe"?
11. What did Jesus say is greater than the demons being subjected to disciples?
12. Why did Jesus give thanks upon the return of the 70? What blessing did he give?
13. Why did the Lawyer ask Jesus a question? What is interesting about Jesus' response?
14. What is the lesson to be learned from the Parable of the Good Samaritan?
15. What do we learn from Jesus' visit to Mary and Martha and how they each respond?

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### **Class 6: Lessons Learned at Jesus' Feet (Luke 11:1 - 12:48)**

#### **Class Objectives**

Identify at least three principles of discipleship

Identify three "if-then" statements and the lessons they provide

Better grasp the distinction between things temporal and things eternal

#### **Questions**

1. The Lord's prayer starts with praise and ends with petition. What benefits this order?
2. What is the overall message from Luke 11:5-13?
3. How does Jesus describe those accusing him of casting out demons through Satan?
4. What does the story of the unclean spirit teach us about our fight against Satan?
5. Who are the truly blessed?
6. How does Jesus describe the current generation and how should it affect its response?
7. What are the two things we have the ability to allow into our bodies? (11:33-36)
8. At the dinner with Pharisees and Lawyers, for what did Jesus condemn them?
9. What is the warning to the disciples at the beginning of chapter 12?
10. Who does Jesus say we should fear?
11. What must we do for Jesus to acknowledge us?
12. What question did a man ask Jesus concerning eternity and judgment?
13. What value is there in being anxious?
14. Why should we stay ready? (12:35-48)



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### **Class 7: Do You Really Want to Follow Jesus? (12:49-14:35)**

#### **Class Objectives**

State the purpose of Jesus mentioned in Luke 12.

Explain the significance of the parable of the Barren Fig Tree.

Give 2 illustrations used by Jesus to talk about costly discipleship.

#### **Questions**

1. Why did Jesus come to the Earth? How does his purpose affect our relationships?
2. What problems does Jesus point out to the “hypocrites”?
3. What is the appropriate response to sin?
4. What is the lesson to be learned from the Parable of the Unfruitful Fig Tree?
5. How did people respond to Jesus healing the disabled woman? How did he respond?
6. What lesson should we learn from the Mustard Seed and the Leaven parables?
7. How did Jesus answer the question: “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” (13:23)?
8. Who did the Pharisees warn Jesus about? How did he response concerning his death?
9. How did Jesus respond to the actions of Pharisees while eating with him on a Sabbath?
10. Why do you think Jesus told the Parable of the Wedding Guests?
11. What is the level of commitment required to be true disciples?
12. What admonition does Jesus give about the high cost of discipleship?
13. How does the usefulness of salt relate to Jesus’ teaching on the costs of discipleship?

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### **Class 8: Jesus Challenges Jerusalem (15:1-17:19)**

#### **Class Objectives**

List and explain the meaning of the 3 parables in Luke 15

State the lesson to be learned from the Parable of the Dishonest Manager

List at least 3 problems of the Jewish religious leaders.

#### **Questions**

1. Who drew near to Jesus at this time? What criticism did Jesus face?
2. What three parables are told in this section?
3. What lessons can be learned from the third parable?
4. What was the plight of the dishonest manager and how did he handle it?
5. What skill does Jesus attribute to the manager and how does it apply to a Christian?
6. In this context, what is revealed about the character of Pharisees?
7. How did Jesus regard the Law and Prophets?
8. What context does the subject of marriage and divorce have in verses 14-18?
9. What lessons are learned from the story of the rich man and Lazarus?
10. How serious is temptation and causing others to be tempted?
11. How should we react to the sins of brethren, including repentance?
12. What is learned from the Parable of the Unworthy Servant?
13. Which of the lepers gave thanks to Jesus, and what is his background?

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### Class 9: The Kingdom In Your Midst (Luke 17:20 - 19:27)

#### Class Objectives

List three observations about the kingdom of God

Identify three more parables and the lessons they teach

Identify God's role in our salvation

#### Questions

1. Where is the kingdom of God?
2. What is the "if-then" statement we can deduct from the parable of the persistent widow?
3. Who does Jesus direct the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector to?
4. How should we receive the kingdom of God?
5. What is the "one thing" that the rich ruler lacked?
6. Who must we sometimes leave for the sake of the kingdom of God?
7. What does Jesus foretell in 18:31-33?
8. Did the disciples understand what Jesus foretold?
9. What does Jesus say is the reason the blind beggar is made well?
10. Who comes to see Jesus in the beginning of chapter 19?
11. How does he receive Jesus?
12. What did the people believe would appear when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem?
13. In the parable of the ten minas, how does the nobleman deal with the faithful servants?
14. How does he deal with the wicked servant?
15. How does he deal with his enemies who don't want to be subject to him?

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### Class 10: Jesus, The King, Comes to Jerusalem (Luke 19:28 - 20:47)

#### Class Objectives

Empathize with God's feelings towards His people

Draw three applicable lessons from Jesus' response to challenges

Quote two scriptures showing the importance of responsibility with God's Word

#### Questions

1. What significance is there concerning the disciples taking the donkey colt?
2. Why would Jesus say stones would cry out to praise his entry if his disciples had not?
3. Why does Jesus weep for Jerusalem?
4. What provokes Jesus to "cleanse" the temple?
5. What did the chief priests, scribes and leaders seek from Jesus? (20:2)
6. Jesus' response is a question. Why did they respond as they did?
7. Who do the wicked vinedressers represent in Jesus' parable?
8. What and who does the stone and cornerstone represent in Ps. 118:22?
9. What purpose was there in asking Jesus, "Is it lawful for us to give tribute to Caesar?"
10. What is significant about Jesus' answer?
11. What is significant about the Sadducees posing a problem concerning the resurrection?
12. What point does Jesus make by quoting Psalm 110:1?
13. What problem does warn against Jesus concerning the scribes?

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### **Class 11: The Passover of Jesus (21:1-22:38)**

#### **Class Objectives**

List at least five things that would occur at the Destruction of Jerusalem.

Identify at least three important lessons Jesus taught his disciples in his last days.

Explain the significance of Passover in relation to Jesus.

#### **Textual Questions**

1. What did Jesus observe and point out concern to his disciples concerning giving?
2. Why did the disciples marvel at the temple? How did Jesus use their view to teach?
3. List 5 things that would occur when Jerusalem was destroyed.
4. How did his disciples both in thought and action concerning the fall of Jerusalem?
5. What is learned from the Parable of the Fig Tree?
6. Describe Jesus' daily schedule the week before the Passover?
7. How were different people in Jerusalem reacting to him?
8. Who initiated the plans to betray Jesus? What were the terms of the betrayal?
9. How did Jesus tell his disciples to prepare for the Passover?
10. How important was this Passover to Jesus? List things he shared at this meal?
11. How does the text help us know the proper mindset in taking the Lord's Supper?
12. From the gospel accounts, why is the argument between the apostles shocking?
13. What did Jesus predict would happen to Peter? What exhortation did he give Peter?

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### Class 12: The Suffering Servant (22:39-23:56)

#### Class Objectives

List at least 3 occasions when Jesus prayed throughout Luke's gospel.

Identify at least 4 individuals/groups surrounding Jesus in his last hours.

List at least 5 special events, circumstances, occurrences, etc. in Jesus' Crucifixion.

#### Questions

1. Jesus' custom was to pray on the Mount of Olives (22:39). What is his example of prayer throughout this gospel?
2. For what did Jesus tell the disciples to pray, and for what did he pray?
3. Describe Jesus' prayer in the garden.
4. What is the example of Jesus' response to God's answer to his prayer.
5. How did Jesus conduct himself during his capture?
6. Describe the details and outcome concerning Peter's denial of Jesus?
7. What abuses did Jesus endure before his trial?
8. Why did Jesus answer the Council as he did?
9. Describe the accusations about Jesus and his response to Pilate.
10. From the behavior of Pilate and Herod what do you learn about their integrity?
11. Describe the interaction of Jesus and the people who observed him go to his death?
12. List the actions and statements of Jesus and those observing him on the cross.
13. What occurred when and after Jesus died?
14. What significance is the identity of those who buried him?

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### Class 13: The Risen Lord (24:1-53)

#### Class Objectives

List three people/groups that Jesus appeared to after his Resurrection.

Explain the impact of Jesus' appearances both to certain individuals as well as groups.

Identify two passages that highlight the importance of the OT in understanding the Gospel.

#### Questions

1. Describe the people and events that occurred at the tomb of Jesus on the third day.
2. What did the two men in "dazzling apparel" tell the women?
3. Why did the apostles respond as they did to the testimony of Jesus' resurrection?
4. As Jesus joined two disciples on a trip to Emmaus, what were they discussing?
5. How did the disciples realize that the person with them was the Lord?
6. After realizing they had been with Jesus, what did they do, and why is it significant?
7. Describe Jesus' first appearance to the those gathered in the upper room.
8. What was the purpose of the message he gave them and how did they respond?
9. How does the ending of this gospel coincide with the beginning of the book of Acts?

#### What do we remember about the Gospel according to Luke?

Parables unique to Luke \_\_\_\_\_

Miracles Luke shared that Jesus performed \_\_\_\_\_

Situations that demonstrate Jesus' compassion and mercy \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus' conduct that disturbed the Jewish leaders \_\_\_\_\_

Unlikely characters blessed, praised, or called by Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

Lessons learned about prayer \_\_\_\_\_

Things learned to be a better Christian \_\_\_\_\_

Lessons and examples to be more evangelistic \_\_\_\_\_