



**ON THE ROAD
WITH MY KING**

The series booklet that you have in your hand has become a real feature of our life together at St Matts. We are convinced and convicted that the word of God grows us as lifelong disciples of Jesus. Taking time to reflect on the word of God as it's preached, meeting with others to study the word of God more deeply and taking time to engage personally with the word of God devotionally are all God's gracious provision for our flourishing.

There is significant work that goes into providing content and producing these booklets. I am thankful to all who contributed time and talents to enable these booklets to land in your hands as we begin this series.

Our series in Luke continues our "That's My King" series from last year. In Luke 9:51, things take such a sharp turn that we have decided to reflect that in the series title. From that point on we find ourselves "On the road with the King". Having seen the type of King Jesus is, we are now drawn into his kingdom and the kingdom life he brings. As we travel on the road with the King (Jesus) we discover more of the kingdom – often in surprising ways. We're invited to join him on the road of his upside-down kingdom.

This booklet provides you with 4 key things that will help you get the most out of Luke.

1. Each week you have the text of the sermon for you to read, mark-up and consider questions and challenges it presents before the Sunday it is preached upon.
2. The blank page following the text is for sermon notes. Write down ideas, questions and key points that come out of the sermon. Creative doodling is fine too :)
3. Questions are provided for Community groups, should they wish. You may like to use resources such as bible.org to supplement your study
4. Finally, you will find a structure and space for four personal devotions each week. Use the blank space to engage with God's word however you'd like, with text or pictures or other creative endeavours. We encourage you to spend time in prayer for things that come up in your devotional time, as well as praying for other matters.

I look forward with confidence to seeing how God continues to grow us as lifelong disciples of Jesus as we travel on the road with the King.

In Grace and Truth, Ron

Luke 9:1-17

¹ Then Jesus called the Twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and power to cure diseases. ² And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ "Take nothing for the journey," He told them, "no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no second tunic. ⁴ Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that area. ⁵ If anyone does not welcome you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that town, as a testimony against them."

⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.

⁷ When Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening, he was perplexed. For some were saying that John had risen from the dead, ⁸ others that Elijah had appeared, and still others that a prophet of old had arisen.

⁹ "I beheaded John," Herod said, "but who is this man I hear such things about?" And he kept trying to see Jesus.

¹⁰ Then the apostles returned and reported to Jesus all that they had done. Taking them away privately, He withdrew to a town called Bethsaida. ¹¹ But the crowds found out and followed Him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and He healed those who needed healing.

¹² As the day neared its end, the Twelve came to Jesus and said, "Dismiss the crowd so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside for lodging and provisions. For we are in a desolate place here."

¹³ But Jesus told them, "You give them something to eat."

"We have only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered, "unless we go and buy food for all these people." ¹⁴ (There were about five thousand men.)

He told His disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." ¹⁵ They did so, and everyone was seated.

¹⁶ Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, Jesus spoke a blessing and broke them. Then He gave them to the disciples to set before the people.

¹⁷ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

Sermon Notes

Luke 9:1-17

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 5 May 2024

Bible Study: Luke 9:1-17

Warming up

1. How do you feel going on a trip to an unfamiliar destination? What would help ease anxiety as you prepare to go? What one item would you find hardest to leave behind?

Keeping a big picture

2. While we are beginning a new series, Luke doesn't start here. Take some time to reflect on last year's journey in Luke 4-8, or especially chapter 8. What's been going on in Luke's account of Jesus' ministry?
3. V2 tells us Jesus sent out the twelve to "Proclaim the Kingdom of God and heal the sick". Where else do we see Luke (or the Bible) use the word kingdom, what other kings are involved in the gospel story and how does a Kingdom framework inform Jesus' actions.
4. What other miraculous feedings are you familiar with in the Bible (hint: Exodus 16). How does this background inform Luke 9's feeding miracle?

Learning and responding

5. Verse 6 tells us the disciples set out as Jesus had commanded. What does this reveal to you about their understanding of Jesus?

6. Beyond a statement of history, what purpose does Luke have for introducing Herod into the story here? What emotion does it raise?

7. What does v8-9 tell you about first century understanding of resurrection. How is it similar or different to what you will find in contemporary culture?

8. Compare what strikes you about Jesus in v1-11 with v12-17. How do these two passages inform or challenge your understanding of Jesus' kingship?

9. How are provision, satisfaction, obedience and mission linked in Luke 9:1-17? What is Jesus teaching his disciples about his kingdom? What is he teaching us?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Deuteronomy 8:1-5

GIST - *Briefly summarise the passage*

GEM - *What are things from this passage to treasure?*

JAMS - *Where in this passage do you get stuck? What questions does it raise for you?*

JESUS - *How does this passage point you to Jesus? How does it anticipate him, praise him or help you better understand him?*

JOB - *In light of what Jesus has already done for us, what are we called to do in response?*

Devotion 2 – 2 Kings 4:42-44

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Week 1: 6-11 May 2024

Devotion 3 – Mark 6:17-29

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Acts 2:42-47

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 9:18-36

¹⁸ One day as Jesus was praying in private and the disciples were with Him, He questioned them: "Who do the crowds say I am?"

¹⁹ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that a prophet of old has arisen."

²⁰ "But what about you?" Jesus asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

²¹ Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. ²² "The Son of Man must suffer many things," He said. "He must be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and He must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

²³ Then Jesus said to all of them, "If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. ²⁴ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.

²⁵ What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, yet lose or forfeit his very self? ²⁶ If anyone is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. ²⁷ But I tell you truthfully, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God."

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus had said these things, He took with Him Peter, John, and James, and went up on a mountain to pray. ²⁹ And as He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became radiantly white.

³⁰ Suddenly two men, Moses and Elijah, began talking with Jesus. ³¹ They appeared in glory and spoke about His departure, which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

³² Meanwhile Peter and his companions were overcome by sleep, but when they awoke, they saw Jesus' glory and the two men standing with Him. ³³ As Moses and Elijah were leaving, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴ While Peter was speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ And a voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is My Son, whom I have chosen. Listen to Him!"

³⁶ After the voice had spoken, only Jesus was present with them. The disciples kept this to themselves, and in those days they did not tell anyone what they had seen.

Sermon Notes

Luke 9:18-36

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 12 May 2024

Bible Study: Luke 9:18-36

Warming up

1. How has God's Spirit been working in you as a result of last week?
2. Describe the most amazing thing you've seen?

Keeping a big picture

3. Up until this point, what have the people and disciples known about Jesus?
4. What is significant about Moses and Elijah being with Jesus? (note the word departure in v31 is the word "Exodus")

Learning and responding

5. What is Jesus hoping to achieve by silencing the disciples (v21) after Peter recognises he is God's Messiah?
6. In v22 Jesus speaks about himself, in v23-26 Jesus speaks more generally about discipleship. What are the similarities and differences?

7. What might gaining the whole world look like in your context? How does Jesus words in v23-36 help us avoid these dangers?

8. Who is the transfiguration (v28-31) for primarily? What purpose does it achieve? How will this help the disciples?

9. As you think about living boldly, what courage do you take from this passage – especially when you encounter suffering or persecution?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Exodus 19:1-7

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Daniel 12:1-7

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Luke 1:26-33

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – 2 Peter 1:12-18

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 9:37-50

³⁷ The next day, when they came down from the mountain, Jesus was met by a large crowd. ³⁸ Suddenly a man in the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg You to look at my son, for he is my only child. ³⁹ A spirit keeps seizing him, and he screams abruptly. It throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It keeps mauling him and rarely departs from him. ⁴⁰ I begged Your disciples to drive it out, but they were unable."

⁴¹ "O unbelieving and perverse generation!" Jesus replied. "How long must I remain with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

⁴² Even while the boy was approaching, the demon slammed him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

⁴³ And they were all astonished at the greatness of God.

While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus was doing, He said to His disciples, ⁴⁴ "Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men." ⁴⁵ But they did not understand this statement. It was veiled from them so that they could not comprehend it, and they were afraid to ask Him about it.

⁴⁶ Then an argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. ⁴⁷ But Jesus, knowing the thoughts of their hearts, had a little child stand beside Him. ⁴⁸ And He said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in My name welcomes Me, and whoever welcomes Me welcomes the One who sent Me. For whoever is the least among all of you, he is the greatest."

⁴⁹ "Master," said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in Your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not accompany us."

⁵⁰ "Do not stop him," Jesus replied, "for whoever is not against you is for you."

Sermon Notes

Luke 9:37-50

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 19 May 2024

Bible Study: Luke 9:37-50

Warming up

1. When have you needed to make a quick adjustment to plans? What helps and hinders in that moment?

Keeping a big picture

2. Reread Luke 4:14-21. How does it provide relevant background to this passage?
3. Remind yourself of what happened the day prior to this passage (Luke 9:28-36). What would be fresh in the minds of the disciples?

Learning and responding

4. What do you make of Jesus' reaction (v41)? Who is it directed at?
5. Jesus had given the disciples power to cast out demons (see ch9:1). While the passage doesn't tell us explicitly, what might be preventing them from driving it out?
6. Is there an application for us regarding exorcising evil. If so, what? If not, why not?

7. Luke moves quickly through the narrative (9:37, 43b), to connect these stories together. What do these stories (and the chapter so far) indicate about the disciples understanding of Jesus?

8. What belief is Jesus exposing in his disciples throughout this narrative (v44-45, v47-50)? Why is it so important for Jesus to address this?

9. Is there a character/s in this story you connect with? What are the points of connection?

10. Jesus has "doubled down" on teaching his disciples about his death? What areas of your discipleship might Jesus want more informed by his death?

NOTE: Children in the Greco-Roman world. Children had little value in the day of Jesus. They had no power, status or rights and were seen as disposable. Bear this in mind when considering what Jesus is teaching his disciples about the kingdom.

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Jeremiah 5:20-31

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Luke 24:36-49

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 19:13-20

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 9:51-62

⁵¹ As the day of His ascension approached, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² He sent messengers on ahead, who went into a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him. ⁵³ But the people there refused to welcome Him, because He was heading for Jerusalem.

⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do You want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?"

⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ And He and His disciples went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow You wherever You go."

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head."

⁵⁹ Then He said to another man, "Follow Me."

The man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰ But Jesus told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead. You, however, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Still another said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first let me bid farewell to my family."

⁶² Then Jesus declared, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and then looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Sermon Notes

Luke 9:51-62

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 26 May 2024

Bible Study: Luke 9:51-62

Warming up

1. How would you rate yourself on determination? What causes this rating?

2. What's something hard you've had to give up or leave behind?

Keeping a big picture

3. What are the top 3 things you would say Jesus has been teaching his disciples so far?

4. Luke 9:51 is a major turning point in Luke. What's the significance of "resolutely set out for Jerusalem"? How's it connected to Jesus recent instructions to the disciples? How will it help you read the next stage of Luke's gospel?

Learning and responding

5. How might you understand v52-53 culturally (cf John 4)? How might you understand it theologically?

6. What is it that Jesus is rebuking in v55? (Think back to 46-50)

7. What is the purpose of the three interactions in v57-62?
 - a. What is Jesus teaching each about discipleship?
 - b. How is Luke teaching us about discipleship?

8. The journey to Jerusalem has just started. How is Jesus helping his disciples be prepared for Jerusalem?

9. How does Jesus' resolute focus on Jerusalem come through in v52-62? What do you learn about Jesus?

10. Where do you lean into, and move back from, the cost of following Jesus?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Ezekiel 21:1-7

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – 2 Kings 1:1-18

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – 1 Peter 4:12-19

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 10:1-24

¹ After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of Him to every town and place He was about to visit. ² And He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest.

³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse or bag or sandals. Do not greet anyone along the road.

⁵ Whatever house you enter, begin by saying, 'Peace to this house.' ⁶ If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Stay at the same house, eating and drinking whatever you are offered. For the worker is worthy of his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

⁸ If you enter a town and they welcome you, eat whatever is set before you.

⁹ Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'

¹⁰ But if you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go into the streets and declare, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off as a testimony against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

¹³ Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴ But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you.

¹⁵ And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades!

¹⁶ Whoever listens to you listens to Me; whoever rejects you rejects Me; and whoever rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in Your name."

¹⁸ So He told them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will harm you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

²¹ At that time Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and declared, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was well-pleasing in Your sight.

²² All things have been entrusted to Me by My Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him.”

²³ Then Jesus turned to the disciples and said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. ²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”

Sermon Notes

Luke 10:1-24

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 2 June 2024

Bible Study: Luke 10:1-24

Warming up

1. Discuss your favourite road trip. What was good? What was difficult?

2. What emotional response do you have to the words mission and evangelism?

Read the passage

Keeping a big picture

3. We know Jesus has resolutely set out for Jerusalem (Luke 9:51). What does this passage tell you about his priorities on the journey?

4. What are the signs that the Kingdom is near (revisit Luke 4:14-21)? How do they inform your reading of this passage?

Learning and responding

5. What is the purpose of the mission of the seventy-two? (v1-3) In what sense were they missioning themselves and in what sense were they preparing the way for Jesus? What correlations do you see with Matthew 28:16-20? How does this tension help us in our mission endeavours?

6. What is the purpose of going empty handed on the road? (v4) How might it relate to discipleship today?

7. The message the disciples are to bring contains both peace and judgement (v5-16). How do you feel about this? How might v13-14 have impacted original Jewish hearers? What principles might you take for our mission endeavours in today's environment?

8. What do you make of the authority Jesus has given the disciples (v19)? What indicators do you see in this passage (or more broadly) that shape our own expectations around both authority and power as we mission?

9. Verse 17-20 reveals both a missional danger, and a missional aid. What are they? What are ways that you could fall into the danger and practice the aid?

10. In what ways have hidden things been revealed (v21-22)? What is the outcome (v23-24)?

11. How does this missional king, and missional story, encourage and equip you to be bold in Jesus' mission?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Isaiah 27:1-13

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Ezekiel 22:23-29

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Acts 28:1-6

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Revelation 3:1-6

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ One day an expert in the law stood up to test Him. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ "What is written in the Law?" Jesus replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷ He answered, " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' and 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

²⁸ "You have answered correctly," Jesus said. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Jesus took up this question and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.

³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down the same road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

³² So too, when a Levite came to that spot and saw him, he passed by on the other side.

³³ But when a Samaritan on a journey came upon him, he looked at him and had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he said, 'and on my return I will repay you for any additional expense.'

³⁶ "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

³⁷ "The one who showed him mercy," replied the expert in the law.

Then Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Sermon Notes

Luke 10:25-37

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 9 June 2024

Bible Study: Luke 10:25-37

Warming up

1. What's a surprising story you've heard or action you've seen?

2. Who are the contemporary Samaritans (traitors and "unfaithful ones") in the Christian story?

Read the passage

Keeping a big picture

3. Read Daniel 12:2, Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. What background do they provide to this story?

4. Consider the relationship between Jews and Samaritans by reading this article: <https://bible.org/illustration/hatred-between-jews-and-samaritans>. How does this background, along with Luke 9:52-55, inform your understanding of the characters and context of the story?

Learning and responding

5. Assuming Jesus isn't proclaiming a merit or works based salvation, what do you make of Jesus' reply to the expert in the law in v28? What does it teach you about discipleship to Jesus?

6. Without retelling the parable, how would you answer the expert's question in v29?

7. Where might you expect people to find God's mercy in 1st Century Judaism? Who is the recipient of mercy in the story? What condition is he in? What do you make of this?

8. Discuss the interplay of financial resources and practical compassion in the Samaritans response. What do you learn about loving God and neighbour through this? Are there gaps in your practice that you need to further consider?

9. Who might we see as modern day enemies. How does Jesus challenge our attitude toward them?

10. What does Jesus mean by "Go and do likewise" in v37? In what ways might this have challenged the expert in the law? How might it be a challenge to you as you continue the discipleship journey?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Deuteronomy 6:4-5

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Leviticus 19:9-18

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – John 10:22-31

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – 1 John 3:11-18

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 10:38-42

³⁸ As they traveled along, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to His message. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations to be made. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord replied, "you are worried and upset about many things. ⁴² But only one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, and it will not be taken away from her."

Sermon Notes

Luke 10:38-42

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 16 June 2024

Bible Study: Luke 10:38-42

Warming up

1. When are you most likely to be in task mode?
2. Whose feet have you appreciated learning from/ being apprenticed to?

Read the passage

Keeping a big picture

3. Luke 10:37 commands action. How does this story work together in Luke's account to avoid potential dangers of being action focussed?
4. How were women generally regarded in this society? What might have been confronting about Mary's actions?
5. What is the cultural significance of sitting at someone's feet?

Learning and responding

6. Retell the story in your own words. Notice what elements you emphasise. What does this reveal about what is significant to you in this story?

7. What does Mary want from Jesus? How does Jesus' response to, and about, Mary reveal his upending of culture?

8. What does Martha want from Jesus? What is good or not good about her request?

9. What does Jesus want from Martha? What general application could you make for Christian discipleship?

10. Jesus didn't rebuke Martha but urged her to something greater than her current distractions. What distracts you from sitting at the Lord's feet?

11. Discuss the interplay between Christian listening (to the Lord) and Christian serving (of and for the Lord)? How does this play out in your journey as a lifelong disciple of Jesus?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Psalm 15:1-5

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Psalm 119:57-64

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – Philippians 1:9-10

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Revelation 22:1-5

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 11:1-13

¹ One day in a place where Jesus had just finished praying, one of His disciples requested, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

² So Jesus told them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

And lead us not into temptation."

⁵ Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you goes to his friend at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,' ⁶ because a friend of mine has come to me on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him.'

⁷ And suppose the one inside answers, 'Do not bother me. My door is already shut, and my children and I are in bed. I cannot get up to give you anything.'

⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up to provide for him because of his friendship, yet because of the man's persistence, he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

⁹ So I tell you: Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ So if you who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Sermon Notes

Luke 11:1-13

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 23 June 2024

Bible Study: Luke 11:1-13

Warming up

1. Describe someone who you've watched doing something and then learnt from them?
2. As appropriate, share your experience of and relationship with your Father. How does it impact your views of God as Father?

Read the passage

Keeping a big picture

3. How many examples can your group come up with of Jesus praying?
4. What do you know of Jewish prayer practice in the Old Testament or in the 1st Century?

Learning and responding

5. The word "you" in v2 is plural. How does this inform the passage and even our practice of prayer?
6. How would you explain the key elements in the prayer Jesus provides in v2-4? What are the pros and cons to either reciting this prayer or of using it as a model?

7. How does the story in v5-8 fit Jesus' teaching on prayer? What is the implied comparison between asking the friend inside and asking God? Given the friend insides response, what might you anticipate of God's response?

8. What do you make of the story in v11-12 and the explanation in v13? What is the motivation for the prayer of the disciple?

9. Wedged between the two stories is v9-10. How do these verses interact with the stories. What point is being made?

10. What aspects of your prayers content, and your motivation to pray might be challenged by this passage?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Deuteronomy 32:26-27

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Ezekiel 36:22-23

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – James 1:2-8

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 11:14-36

¹⁴ One day Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute. And when the demon was gone, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowds were amazed, ¹⁵ but some of them said, "It is by Beelzebul, the prince of the demons, that He drives out demons." ¹⁶ And others tested Him by demanding a sign from heaven.

¹⁷ Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste, and a house divided against a house will fall. ¹⁸ If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? After all, you say that I drive out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. ²⁰ But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

²¹ When a strong man, fully armed, guards his house, his possessions are secure.

²² But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted, and then he divides up his plunder.

²³ He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

²⁴ When an unclean spirit comes out of a man, it passes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.'

²⁵ On its return, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. ²⁶ Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and dwell there. And the final plight of that man is worse than the first."

²⁷ As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and blessed are the breasts that nursed You!"

²⁸ But He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

²⁹ As the crowds were increasing, Jesus said, "This is a wicked generation. It demands a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰ For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so the Son of Man will be a sign to this generation.

³¹ The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them; for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and now One greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will stand at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now One greater than Jonah is here.

³³ No one lights a lamp and puts it in a cellar or under a basket. Instead, he sets it on a stand, so those who enter can see the light.

³⁴ Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are bad, your body is full of darkness.

³⁵ Be careful, then, that the light within you is not darkness. ³⁶ So if your whole body is full of light, with no part of it in darkness, you will be radiant, as though a lamp were shining on you.”

Sermon Notes

Luke 11:14-36

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 30 June 2024

Bible Study: Luke 11:14-36

Warming up

1. Discuss a time when darkness has scared you. If it never has, discuss that.
2. What do you make of demonic power? Where do you see, or expect to see, it in your world?

Read the passage

Keeping a big picture

3. Consider Luke 4:31-37; 6:17-19; 8:26-39 and 9:37-43. What reactions has Luke described so far to expulsion of demons? In Luke 4:1-13, how did Jesus overcome his temptation by Satan?
4. The previous passage was about confidence in prayer and the promise of the Holy Spirit. What connections do you see to this passage?

Learning and responding

5. What motive or thinking might be behind those in the crowd who ask the question in v15?
6. What is the logical error that Jesus points out to the questioners? (v17-20) Are their dangers we could fall into today in this area?

7. What is Jesus declaring about Spiritual powers (v17-23)? How does this challenge your worldview and aid you in your discipleship journey?

8. Given v24-26, what is the point of driving out demons? What needs to happen to ensure that v26 doesn't happen? (v27-28 might help). What is critical in discipleship that overcomes spiritual opposition from these verses?

9. Briefly recount the story of Jonah. What is the sign? How will the Son of Man be a sign similar to that of the sign of Jonah? How does this help your focus on the discipleship journey?

10. How does Acts 26:15-18 interact with v33-36? What might it mean to have "your whole body full of light?" How do you "see to it that the light within you is not darkness"?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Isaiah 49:22-26

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Jonah 3:1-10

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – John 15:9-17

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Luke 11:37-54

³⁷ As Jesus was speaking, a Pharisee invited Him to dine with him; so He went in and reclined at the table. ³⁸ But the Pharisee was surprised to see that Jesus did not first wash before the meal.

³⁹ "Now then," said the Lord, "you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. ⁴⁰ You fools! Did not the One who made the outside make the inside as well? ⁴¹ But give as alms the things that are within you, and you will see that everything is clean for you.

⁴² Woe to you Pharisees! You pay tithes of mint, rue, and every herb, but you disregard justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without neglecting the former.

⁴³ Woe to you Pharisees! You love the chief seats in the synagogues and the greetings in the marketplaces. ⁴⁴ Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, which men walk over without even noticing."

⁴⁵ One of the experts in the law told Him, "Teacher, when You say these things, You insult us as well."

⁴⁶ "Woe to you as well, experts in the law!" He replied. "You weigh men down with heavy burdens, but you yourselves will not lift a finger to lighten their load.

⁴⁷ Woe to you! You build tombs for the prophets, but it was your fathers who killed them. ⁴⁸ So you are witnesses consenting to the deeds of your fathers: They killed the prophets, and you build their tombs. ⁴⁹ Because of this, the wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles; some of them they will kill and others they will persecute.'

⁵⁰ As a result, this generation will be charged with the blood of all the prophets that has been shed since the foundation of the world, ⁵¹ from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, all of it will be charged to this generation.

⁵² Woe to you experts in the law! For you have taken away the key to knowledge. You yourselves have not entered, and you have hindered those who were entering."

⁵³ As Jesus went on from there, the scribes and Pharisees began to oppose Him bitterly and to ply Him with questions about many things, ⁵⁴ waiting to catch Him in something He might say.

Sermon Notes

Luke 11:37-54

One takeaway for me:

Sunday 7 July 2024

Bible Study: Luke 11:37-54

Warming up

1. Discuss household cleaning practices. When (if ever) is it okay to put things out of sight, when (if ever) is a more thorough clean necessary?

2. When is the right (or wrong) time to confront someone about major issues?

Read the passage

Keeping a big picture

3. Who were the Pharisees? See this short article as a starting point.
<https://bible.org/illustration/what-pharisee>

4. Consider the prophetic rebukes of Isaiah 1:10-17; 58:4-8; Amos 5:21-24 and Micah 6:6-8. What similarities do you see in this passage? How might this impact Jesus' rebuke of the Pharisees?

Learning and responding

5. What is the core issue that Jesus takes up with the Pharisees? What trap have they fallen into?

6. Which woe do you find most striking, relevant or applicable? Why?

7. Consider the phrase "but you neglect justice and the love of God"
What would it look like to not neglect justice and the love of God?
Are there things in your life or our church life that we should consider in light of this scripture?

8. In what sense is the generation Jesus speaks to responsible for the blood of former generations (v50-51)? What principles might you take from this?

9. What response might Jesus be hoping for in the Pharisees? What response might Luke be hoping for from his readers? What response do you have to this passage?

One thing to take away this week -

Devotion 1 – Genesis 4:1-6

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 2 – Deuteronomy 14:22-29

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 3 – James 2:1-13

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

Devotion 4 – Revelation 3:13-22

(Gist, Gem, Jams, Jesus, Job)

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