

Luke Part 1

Leader Guide

(NASB and ESV)

WHO IS THIS MAN
WHO FORGIVES SINS?

(CHAPTERS 1–16)

Luke Part 1 Leader Guide (NASB and ESV)

© 2013, 2021 Precept

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37422

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise—without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Printed in the U.S.A.

Unless otherwise noted Scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Bible®

© The Lockman Foundation, 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995.

Used by permission. www.lockman.org

Scripture quotations marked ESV are taken from ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®)

© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

2nd Edition (1/2021)

USING LEADER GUIDES

Leader Guides are intended for you, the leader, to guide your Precept Upon Precept® and In & Out® discussions. They are designed to help you reason through the content of the lessons and to ensure you have understood what your group should have learned from their study. The guides offer effective plans for leading discussions.

The Holy Spirit is your guide as you prepare. He is the one who knows what your group needs to apply to their lives. Pray for them as they study and for yourself as you prepare to lead the discussion.

These guides can be used for either the NASB or the ESV edition of the courses. ESV words follow the NASB after a slash / or are set off with parentheses.

Leader Guides include the following:

- Lesson emphasis
- A logical order for the discussion
- Discussion questions
- Suggested visual aid(s)

Practical tips for using the Leader Guide:

- **Don't simply "do" the lesson.**
Stay with the lesson until you have a good understanding of it. This will give you a better grasp of how the Leader Guide takes you through the lesson.
- **You don't have to ask every question in the guide.**
Often one question will be covered while discussing another question so there is no reason to ask it. Your goal is not to ask every question, but to ask enough questions to make sure your group understood the lesson and to help them apply the truths to their lives.

Using the Leader Guide with In & Out


When your entire group uses In & Out

Compare an In & Out lesson with the Leader Guide. Use what relates to the In & Out lesson as a guide for the discussion. Don't teach what's not in In & Out lessons. Remember your goal in the discussion is for your group to discuss what they've learned, not for you to lecture on what you learned.

For groups studying both Precept Upon Precept and In & Out

Use the Leader Guides as designed for PUP, knowing that the In & Out assignments will be covered in the discussion. Make a note in the Leader Guide of what is not in the In & Out.

| PRINTED PAGE NO. | L E S S O N S | PDF PAGE NO. |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | LESSON ONE: Luke 1 | 5 |
| 7 | LESSON TWO: Luke 2–3 | 11 |
| 15 | LESSON THREE: Luke 4–5 | 19 |
| 23 | LESSON FOUR: Luke 6 | 27 |
| 29 | LESSON FIVE: Luke 7–8 | 33 |
| 37 | LESSON SIX: Luke 9 | 41 |
| 43 | LESSON SEVEN: Luke 10 | 47 |
| 47 | LESSON EIGHT: Luke 11 | 51 |
| 55 | LESSON NINE: Luke 12 | 59 |
| 61 | LESSON TEN: Luke 13–14 | 65 |
| 69 | LESSON ELEVEN: Luke 15–16 | 73 |

To locate a particular lesson in the pdf, click on  in the grey bar on the left side of the window. Bookmarks will appear for each of the lessons. Select the lesson you need.

LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 1

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 1

LUKE 1

Verses 1-4

What is Luke about? Why was it written?

The author investigated carefully (ESV—followed closely) everything that had been taught to Theophilus and himself.

NOTE: Although the author of Luke is not named in the text, Luke is considered to be the one who wrote it.

These things about Jesus had been told or written by eyewitnesses, but he was not one. Therefore, the careful investigation / close following.

He wrote in consecutive order (ESV—an orderly account) so Theophilus and everyone else who reads this account can know the exact truth (ESV—have certainty).

Tell your group to look at the chart in the lesson “The Main Characters of Luke 1,” “The Roman Period,” and “Israel in the Time of Christ” map in the Appendix as visual aids.

Verses 5-7

Who are these verses about? When?

The first event the author wrote for Theophilus to know was about a priest named Zacharias (ESV—Zechariah).

He and his wife Elizabeth had no children and were both advanced in years. She was one of Aaron’s descendants—the priestly family of Israel.

They were both righteous before the Lord and blameless in His commands, meaning they did what God’s Word said.

The time was in the days of Herod, king of Judea.

Who was this Herod and when was he king of Judea? Refer to the chart “The Roman Period.”

Herod the Great who died in 4 B.C.—probably the year Jesus was born
He was king of Judea for 33 years.

Ask what your group learned about Herod the Great, but watch your time.

Verses 8-25

What happened? Where and when?

While Zacharias / Zechariah was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple and burn incense.

At that hour, a multitude of people outside the temple were praying. An angel appeared inside the temple at the altar of incense. He was sent with a message for Zacharias / Zechariah.

His response to the angel was a normal one; he was troubled and fearful. He was a righteous man doing a right service for God, and an angel appeared.

The first thing the angel said to him was not to be afraid.

Then he told Zacharias / Zechariah his petition had been heard and Elizabeth would have a son. Then he gave a message about the son who was to be named John.

Joy, gladness, many rejoice at his birth
Great in God's sight / before the Lord
No wine or liquor
Filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb
Turn many of Israel to the Lord
Go before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah
Turn hearts
Turn disobedient to righteous / just
Prepare a people for the Lord

How does Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6 relate to this description of John?

John fulfilled these prophecies made hundreds of years before.
He was God's messenger to clear the way before the Lord came.
His job was restoring hearts, turning Israel to the Lord.

Malachi 4:5 says this refers to Elijah.
Luke 1:17 says John was a forerunner in the spirit and power of Elijah.

After John's birth, what did his father say about him in Luke 1:76-77?

Prophet of the Most High

Go before the Lord to prepare His ways
To give His people Israel knowledge of salvation by forgiveness of sins

Encourage your group to remember these prophecies about John as they continue to study Luke.

What happened in verses 18-25?

Zacharias / Zechariah didn't believe what the angel said, so he couldn't speak until the words were fulfilled. When he left the temple, he had to communicate with signs.

The angel's name is Gabriel.

He stands in God's presence.

He was sent from there to bring good news to Zacharias / Zechariah in the temple.

God answered Zacharias's petition, as Gabriel said.

After he returned home, Elizabeth became pregnant.

Her response was that the Lord had taken away her reproach or disgrace.

At that time, a barren woman was not looked on favorably by other people.

Verses 26-38

Who are these verses about and when? Tell your group to look at their map as a visual aid.

In the 6th month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, Gabriel was sent to Mary in Nazareth. She was a virgin, engaged or betrothed to a man named Joseph, one of David's descendants.

Gabriel addressed Mary as "favored one." Then he told her not to be afraid because she was favored by God and would have a son who was to be named Jesus.

What did Gabriel say about Jesus?

Great

Son of the Most High

Throne of his father David, reign over house of Jacob or Israel forever

His kingdom has no end

Holy child called the Son of God

How does this description of Jesus relate to the church now? Give time for your group to discuss application.

What were the two messages from Gabriel about? What did they have in common?

A barren woman was to give birth to the one who would prepare the Lord's way. His name was to be John and he would turn Israel to the Lord...forgiveness.

Both John and Jesus were named by God, and what they would do was prophesied before they were conceived.

A virgin was to give birth to the Son of God—the Lord Himself who was to reign on David's throne over Israel forever. He was foretold as the king before He was born.

Compare this with Luke 1:69.

God brought salvation for Israel in the house of David, God's servant.
It was spoken by the prophets.

At this point, ask what your group learned from the cross-references about David.

2 Samuel 7

David's house, descendant / offspring, and kingdom were forever.
His throne or rule was forever.

Psalms 89 and 132

God made a covenant with David which promised his seed / offspring forever and his throne built up. There was a condition for David's throne—obedience, keeping the covenant.

Matthew 1

Jesus, the Messiah, was a descendant of David.

Lead your discussion back to Luke 1. What was Mary's response to what the angel said?

Her response was different from Zacharias's / Zechariah's. She believed what was said, but didn't understand how a virgin could have a child. So she asked.

Mary believed it and called herself the Lord's slave—let Him do whatever He says.

Ask your group if they really believe that whatever God says is not impossible for Him to do.

Verses 39-45

When did this happen? Where did Mary go, and what happened?

At this time (ESV—in those days)

The last time reference was Elizabeth's 6th month of pregnancy.

Mary went to Elizabeth, her relative, in the hill country in Judah.

She greeted Elizabeth

Elizabeth heard the greeting

Her baby leaped in her womb for joy

Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit

She cried out / exclaimed that Mary was blessed, and her child

She referred to Mary as the mother of her Lord

Elizabeth blessed Mary who believed what the Lord spoke

Verses 46-56

What are these verses called? Who and what is this about?

This is referred to by some as the Magnificat.

Mary exalted and rejoiced in God her Savior.
Mary was God her Savior's humble slave.
She knew all generations would call her blessed because of bearing Jesus.

God

Mighty One does great and mighty things
Holy
Mercy toward those who fear Him
Scattered the proud
Brought down rulers and thrones
Compare this with verses 32-33, 69.

Exalted the humble
Filled the hungry and sent rich away empty
Helped His servant Israel, remembered mercy
as spoken to Abraham and his descendants / offspring

How do the cross-references about Abraham relate to Luke 1?

Genesis 12 and 15

God promised Abram—Abraham—that He would bless him, make him a great nation, and that in him all families of the earth would be blessed. He promised Abraham a seed and the land, and He made a covenant with him. That great nation was Israel.

Galatians 3

The promised seed / offspring was Christ, coming through Abraham's descendants. Abraham believed the promise and it was reckoned / counted as righteousness by God. Those who believe, Gentiles as well as Israel, are blessed with Abraham.

Lead your discussion back to Luke 1:56. What does it say?

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about 3 months.

Give time for your group to discuss what they learned about God, His Son, and Mary.

Verses 57-80

What are the events in these verses?

Elizabeth gave birth to John.
On the 8th day he was named and circumcised. Compare this with Genesis 17:9-14.
When his father wrote his name, then he could speak again. Relate this to verse 20.

Zacharias / Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied.

Lord God of Israel visited and accomplished redemption for His people
Salvation in David's house as spoken by prophets
Salvation from enemies
To show mercy
To remember His covenant, His oath to Abraham
That Israel serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness

NOTE: At that point Israel was under the rule of the Romans.

What was prophesied about John in verses 76-79?

Prophet of the Most High
Prepare the way for the Lord
To give Israel knowledge of salvation by forgiveness of their sins
Because of God's mercy, He'll visit them
The illustration is the sunrise shining on darkness

Relate this to Isaiah 9:2, 6-7. The people in darkness will see Jesus.
A son will be given, the Prince of Peace to rule on David's throne.

Salvation will guide to peace

How does this chapter end?

Time passed as John grew; he became strong in spirit.
He lived in the deserts / wilderness, until the time for his public appearance to Israel.

His public appearance to do what the Lord said he would do—prepare the way for Him.

Encourage your group to continue their study to learn more about their God and the salvation He sent for them.

If you have time left, you might end this discussion by asking if there is anything they want to bring up that wasn't already discussed.

**LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 2**

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 2–3
- Jesus' birth
- John's message

REVIEW

According to Luke 1:1-4, what is Luke about? Why was it written?

Luke investigated carefully, (ESV— followed closely) everything that had been taught to Theophilus and himself.

These things about Jesus had been told or written by eyewitnesses, but he was not one. Therefore, the careful investigation / close following.

He wrote for Theophilus and everyone else who reads this to know the exact truth (have certainty).

What is Luke 1 about?

The Lord's angel Gabriel announced the births of John and Jesus.
John's mother was old and barren.
Jesus' mother was a virgin.
But what God said happened.

John was born.

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart and ask how they summarized the theme of Luke 1.

Gabriel announced births of John and Jesus; John was born

Tell them to look at the map "Israel in the Time of Christ" and "The Roman Period" chart as visual aids for your discussion.

LUKE 2

Verses 1-7

How does this chapter begin? What was happening, when, and where?

At the time when Caesar Augustus decreed that a census be taken (ESV—all the world should be registered)

Caesar Augustus ruled the Roman Empire from 27 B.C. to A.D. 14.

It was the first census / registration while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

NOTE: According to historical accounts and commentaries, there is debate about when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Because Joseph was a descendant of David, he had to register for the census in the city of David. He and Mary went from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem. God used Caesar to decree a census to send Joseph there to fulfill what He said in the prophets.

What is the definition of Bethlehem?

“Bethlehem” means house of bread.

How do the cross-references in John 6 and Micah 5 relate to Bethlehem?

John 6:32-35

Jesus is the bread of life, the bread that came from heaven.

Micah 5:2

The ruler of Israel was to come from Bethlehem.

This was God’s Word, and it was fulfilled just as He said.

Remind your group of what God said in Luke 1. All was fulfilled as He said. Encourage them to order their lives based on God’s Word. It doesn’t fail.

What happened when Jesus was born?

Mary wrapped Jesus and laid Him in a manger, feeding trough, because there was no room for them in the inn at Bethlehem.

Verses 8-21

Who and where are these verses about? What happened?

Shepherds watching their flock at night were in the same region as Bethlehem.

An angel appeared to them and the Lord's glory shone around them.
The angel said the same thing Gabriel had said to both Zacharias / Zechariah and Mary.

He told them not to be afraid because they were, and because his message was good news.

He announced the birth of the Savior, Christ the Lord.
There was a sign for them—the baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

Then a multitude of the heavenly host appeared with the angel and praised God.

You might ask your group what they think about what the shepherds saw and heard. What kind of announcements did the angels make in Luke 1 and 2? How important were those announcements?

What did the shepherds do when the angels went back into heaven?

They went to Bethlehem to see what they'd been told about.
They saw the sign for them—the baby in the manger.

After seeing Him, they told what they'd heard about the child.
Those who heard wondered.
Mary treasured all the things and pondered them in her heart.

The shepherds left and were glorifying and praising God for what they'd heard and seen—just as they'd been told. What God says is what happens, just like He says it will.

What happened in verse 21?

Eight days after His birth, He was given His name "Jesus" like Gabriel told Mary.
Compare this with Luke 1:59-64.

Verses 22-38

Where did these events take place? What happened? Discuss relevant cross-references.

After Mary's days of purification according to the Law, they took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord and to offer a sacrifice.

Exodus 13:1-2

Every firstborn was sanctified / consecrated to the Lord, belonged to Him.

Leviticus 12:1-8

After a son was born, he was to be circumcised on the 8th day.
His mother was not to enter the sanctuary for another 33 days.

Then she was to bring an offering to the priest at the tent of meeting, the tabernacle. Later, when the temple was built, offerings were brought there.

Mary's offering was birds because Joseph and she could not afford a lamb.

Who saw Jesus in the temple, and what did they say about Him?

Simeon

A righteous and devout man looking for the consolation of Israel
The Holy Spirit was on him and told him that he would not die until he saw the
Lord's Christ.

He came in the Spirit to the temple, held Jesus, and blessed God.

Jesus is God's salvation.
A light of revelation to the Gentiles
The glory of God's people Israel

He said Jesus was appointed for
the fall and rise of many in Israel
a sign to be opposed, so that thoughts from many hearts will be revealed

Mary's soul would be pierced with a sword.

Anna

A prophetess from the tribe of Asher
An 84-year-old widow
Never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers

At that very hour, she came up and began thanking God.
It seems from the context that it was when Simeon blessed God for Jesus.

She spoke of Him to all who were waiting for Jerusalem's redemption.

Give time for your group to discuss what Luke 1 and 2 say about Jesus. Discuss application.

Verses 39-40

What do these verses say about Joseph, Mary, and Jesus?

Joseph and Mary did all the Law said they were to do.
Then they went back to Nazareth in Galilee.

Jesus

Grew and became strong
Increased in / filled with wisdom
God's grace / favor was on Him

Compare the description of Jesus in verse 40 with that of John in Luke 1:80.

Verses 41-52

Ask your group what they learned from their study of these verses.

Again Joseph and Mary were doing what the Lord, through the Law of Moses, told them to do. They went to the Feast of Passover each year in Jerusalem.

These verses are about the feast when Jesus was 12 years old.

Exodus 12:1-27

Passover was originally when God spared the firstborn of Israel in Egypt.

1st month, 10th day

Each family took a one-year-old unblemished male lamb

14th day at twilight

They killed the lamb and put its blood on their doorposts

They ate the lamb in haste

It was the Lord's Passover to be observed by Israel forever

As the Lord went through Egypt to kill the firstborn, He passed over the homes with the blood on the door.

This was also the time of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. They were to eat unleavened bread from the 14th to the 21st of the month because God brought Israel out of Egypt.

Leviticus 23:1-8

The Lord told Israel that the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread were appointed times for Israel.

1 Corinthians 5:7

Christ Jesus was the Passover Lamb.

Give time for your group to discuss what they think about this.

How does Luke 2 end?

Jesus was in the temple listening to and questioning the teachers who were amazed by His understanding and answers at 12 years old.

When His parents found Him there, His response was that they should have known He had to be in His Father's house. They didn't understand, but Mary treasured these things in her heart. Compare this with Luke 2:19.

Again, in verse 52, there is another statement about Jesus growing. Compare this with verse 40.

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart and ask what they noted as a chapter theme for Luke 2.

Jesus' birth

LUKE 3

Verses 1-6

Ask what your group learned from these verses. Tell them to look at “The Roman Period” and “Herod’s Family Tree” and the map “The Region of the Tetrarchs” as visual aids.

The fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar was A.D. 28 according to most sources.
Pontius Pilate was the governor of Judea.

Herod in verse 1, the tetrarch of Galilee, was Herod Antipas.
His brother was Herod Philip II, tetrarch of Ituraea and Trachonitis.

It was during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas.

NOTE: Encourage your group that knowing this information will be helpful as they continue their study in Luke.

This was the time when John began his public ministry to Israel because God’s word came to him in the wilderness—where he lived, Luke 1:80.

He preached a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins.

What are the definitions of “baptism” and repentance?

“Baptism” means “immersion, submersion . . . overwhelmed.”¹ It’s “*a dipping or sinking.*”² It can mean identified with or united with.

“Repent” means “to change one’s mind.”³

Compare verses 4-6 with Luke 1:17 and 76-77.

John fulfilled prophecies. He was the forerunner in the spirit of Elijah.
He turned disobedient hearts to righteous / just.

¹James Strong, *Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon* (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995), G908.

²Robert L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition* (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), G908.

³Robert L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition* (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), G3340.

He made the way for the Lord. He would go before the Lord and give Israel a knowledge of salvation by forgiveness of sins.

Forgiveness comes as a result of repentance.

Some in Israel like Simeon and Anna had been waiting for this salvation.

The angelic announcements about John and Jesus were about the most significant event. Salvation was promised hundreds of years before by God Himself.

Verses 7-20

What do these verses teach about John and his message of repentance for forgiveness of sins?

He warned those coming for the baptism of repentance to produce fruits connected with repentance. A true change of mind results in changed behavior.

God's wrath is for those who don't repent, those who aren't forgiven.

John told the people of Israel that being a son of Abraham was not good enough to escape the fire of God's wrath. It requires repentance.

Verses 10-14 give examples of bearing fruits from repentance.

Give time for your group to discuss application of this.

What are verses 15-17 about?

John said he was not the Christ. He only baptized with water.

The Christ was mightier than John and would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

In this context, fire is a reference to God's wrath, verses 7-9 and 17.

Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit those who repent and have forgiveness. He unites, identifies them with, submerges them with the Holy Spirit.

Those who don't repent will be baptized with the fire of His wrath.

Who are verses 18-20 about?

Herod the tetrarch
He was the same Herod as in verse 1, Herod Antipas.

He was one of those who didn't repent.

John reprimanded / reproved him because of Herodias his brother's wife and because of other wicked / evil things he did. Herodias had been or was the wife of Herod Philip I.

Herod put John in prison.

Verses 21-23

What are these verses about?

Before Herod put John in prison, John baptized Jesus.

The heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in a bodily form like a dove. The Father's voice came from heaven saying Jesus is His beloved Son and He is well pleased in/with Him. This was another announcement from heaven like others in Luke 1, except it was God the Father's voice, not an angel's.

Then verse 23 says Jesus began His ministry. His baptism might have been something similar to a commissioning. He was about 30 years of age.

Verses 23-38

How does this chapter end? Tell your group to look at the genealogy chart in the lesson as a visual aid.

Jesus began His ministry when He was about 30 years old. His baptism seems to have initiated His ministry.

The rest of this chapter is Jesus' genealogy.

NOTE: This genealogy in Luke is considered to be Mary's genealogy. It is different from the one in Matthew 1. You might have to help your group to see the difference in the two genealogies. Matthew 1:16 says it is Joseph's genealogy.

Ask about a possible theme for Luke 3 on the At a Glance chart.

John preached / proclaimed baptism of repentance; Jesus' baptism; a genealogy

If you have time, ask your group how this study of Luke 1–3 has helped them.

**LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 3**

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 4–5

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, ask your group what they remember about Luke 1–3. Tell them to look at their At a Glance chart to help remember the main points.

Luke wrote an account which he had investigated carefully / followed closely for Theophilus to know the exact truth / have certainty. He wrote about Jesus.

Luke 1 Gabriel announced births of John and Jesus; John the Baptist was born

Luke 2 Jesus' birth

Luke 3 John preached / proclaimed baptism of repentance; Jesus' baptism; a genealogy

Tell them to look at the map “Israel in the Time of Christ” as well as the At a Glance chart as visual aids for the rest of your discussion.

LUKE 4

How does verse 1 continue from the events of Luke 3?

Jesus returned from the Jordan.

This probably refers to Luke 3:21-22 where John baptized Jesus.

According to Luke 3:3, John was in the district / region around the Jordan River.

Verses 1-13

Ask your group what they learned about Jesus and what happened in these verses.

Tell them to look at “What I Learned in Luke about Satan and Demons” as a visual aid.

Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit, and He led Jesus into the wilderness.

The Spirit led Jesus during the 40 days the devil tempted Him.

One temptation was to turn a stone into bread, because Jesus was hungry as a result of fasting 40 days. Jesus' reply was a quote from the Old Testament that man doesn't live by bread alone.

What do the cross-references say about this temptation?

Matthew 4:4

He also said man lives by every word out of God's mouth.

Deuteronomy 8:1-3

This is where God made that statement about bread and His Word.

God reminded Israel how He cared for them during 40 years in the wilderness. He let them be hungry, and then fed them with manna so they would understand that man lives by everything coming from His mouth—His Word. Israel was to keep all of the Lord’s commands.

Isaiah 55:11

God’s word doesn’t return to Him empty, but accomplishes what His purpose was for sending it.

How can Jesus’ words apply to temptation for believers now? Give your group time to discuss application.

What are the other temptations and how did Jesus handle them?

Another temptation was to worship the devil so he would give Jesus dominion over all the world’s kingdoms. Again, Jesus quoted God’s Word instead of giving in to the temptation.

The other temptation was for Jesus to throw Himself off the pinnacle of the temple in Jerusalem so God would send His angels to protect Him. This time the devil quoted God’s Word. But Jesus did the same and resisted the temptation to test God.

The devil left Jesus until an opportune time—these were not the only temptations when he tried to get Jesus to sin.

Ask your group what they learned about the devil from Luke and the cross-references.

He offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world because they’d been given to him.

1 John 5:19 supports this statement. The whole world lies in his power.

The devil is

The evil one

The prince of the power of the air, Ephesians 2:1-2

The spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience

The great red dragon, Revelation 12:9

The serpent of old (ESV—ancient serpent), Revelation 12:9 and Genesis 3

Satan

The deceiver of the world

A murderer, John 8:44

A liar and the father of lies

Give your group time to discuss how these truths relate to them during the above discussion or after talking about verses 1-13.

Verses 14-30

Where did Jesus go, and what did He do?

He went to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. The last location in the text was the temple in Jerusalem in verse 9.

He taught in the synagogues in Galilee. It was Jesus' custom to go to the synagogue on the Sabbath. In the Nazareth synagogue, He read from Isaiah.

Ask your group what they learned about synagogues and the Sabbath from their research and the cross-references.

Synagogues

Assembly places for Jews

Place for worship and reading the Scripture on the Sabbath

Synagogues might have originated as early as the Babylonian captivity or later, during the 400 years between the Old and New Testaments (the inter-Testament period).

Sabbath

The 7th day of the week

The day God rested because His work of creation was complete

Blessed and sanctified, holy

The day God commanded Israel to do no work

A sign between Israel and Him

A perpetual covenant

What did He say about the text He read in Isaiah? What happened as a result?

The book or scroll of Isaiah was handed to Him and He found and read Isaiah 61:1-2. Jesus told the people there that Scripture was fulfilled.

The Spirit on Him

Preach gospel (ESV—proclaim good news) to the poor

Proclaim release / liberty to captives

Recovery of sight to blind

Set oppressed free / at liberty

Proclaim favorable year of the Lord (ESV—year of the Lord's favor)

He didn't read the rest of verse 2 which is about the day of God's vengeance.

The people who heard spoke well of Him and wondered / marveled at His gracious words. They only knew Him as Joseph's son.

In Luke 4:23 there is a statement which might seem peculiar about a physician healing himself. Ask your group what they think that means.

It referred to Jesus doing in Nazareth, His hometown, what they heard He did at Capernaum.

He said a prophet isn't welcome in his hometown. Then He brought up other Old Testament references to a Sidonian widow and Naaman the Syrian. He contrasted those two Gentiles with the people of Israel at the time of Elijah and Elisha.

Then the people in the synagogue were filled with rage / wrath, drove Him out of the city / town, and wanted to throw Him down the cliff—kill Him.

But He passed through them and went away.

Verses 31-43

What are the events in these verses? Ask what your group learned about Jesus.

Jesus went to Capernaum and taught on the Sabbath in the synagogue.

He rebuked an unclean spirit, a demon to come out of a man.

The people were amazed / astonished at Jesus' authority in teaching and commanding spirits, verses 32 and 36.

These events show how He fulfilled Isaiah 61:1-2.

Compare verse 37 with verses 14-15. News of Him spread.

He then left the synagogue and went to Simon's home.

There He healed Simon's mother-in-law and any who were sick and brought to Him.

He continued to rebuke demons coming out of people. The demons referred to Him as the Holy One of God and the Son of God. He didn't allow them to speak because they knew He was the Christ.

The next morning, He went to a secluded / desolate place. But the people went to Him and tried to keep Him there.

Verse 43 is another statement about His ministry—He was sent to preach the kingdom of God to other cities / towns as well. He kept on preaching in the synagogues.

How do the events in this chapter show Jesus fulfilling Isaiah 61:1-2?

How does what this chapter teaches about Jesus relate to a believer's life now?

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart and ask about a theme for Luke 4.

Jesus' temptation, teaching in Nazareth and Capernaum

LUKE 5

Verses 1-11

Where did Jesus go, and what did He do in these verses?

He got in Simon's boat on the lake of Gennesaret which is another name for the Sea of Galilee. The boat went out some from land, and He sat in the boat to teach the crowd on shore.

After teaching He told Simon, a fisherman, to go into deep water and let down the nets for a catch. Simon replied that they'd done that all night, but he would still do as Jesus said. They caught such a large number of fish that their nets were breaking.

They signaled for their partners to come with their boat to help, and there were so many fish that both boats began to sink. Then Simon Peter made his confession at Jesus' feet. He was a sinful man in the presence of the Lord.

You might ask your group when they realized this truth in their lives. Give time to discuss application.

What was the reaction to the catch of fish? What did Jesus say?

Simon and all with him were amazed / astonished because of the fish.
So were James and John, his partners.

Jesus told them they would be catching men, and when they landed their boats they left everything and followed Him.

Verses 12-16

What happened in these verses?

Jesus healed a leper in a city in Galilee.

Verse 15 is another verse which tells of news about Him spreading.

Large crowds were gathering more, and Jesus would slip away / withdraw to a secluded place and pray. That should be part of any person's ministry—prayer and time alone with God.

Verses 17-26

Who came on the scene and what did they do?

Pharisees and teachers of the law from Galilee, Judea, and even Jerusalem heard Jesus teach and saw Him heal the man lowered into a house by his friends.

The man and his friends' faith is contrasted with what the scribes and Pharisees thought.

This took place in Capernaum, Jesus' home, Mark 2:1-14.

Ask your group what they learned about the scribes and Pharisees.

Scribes—copied, wrote copies of the Law. The majority were Pharisees.

Pharisees—a Jewish religious sect meaning “separated ones.” They were dedicated to keeping the Law.

What happened with the scribes and Pharisees when Jesus healed the man?

Jesus told the man his sins were forgiven.

Jesus knew the scribes and Pharisees were thinking that He blasphemed. Because only God can forgive sins, they understood that Jesus was claiming to be God or maybe saying Jesus was making Himself equal with God. To prove His authority, He told the healed man to get up and walk. They saw that he did, glorifying God.

They were all astonished / amazed, also glorifying God, but filled with fear / awe. They knew and said they saw remarkable / extraordinary things that day.

Verses 27-32

Who and what are these verses about? Also ask what a disciple is.

Jesus saw a tax collector sitting in his tax booth. Compare Levi’s following with verse 11.

Levi gave a big reception / feast for Jesus at his house. A great crowd / large company of tax collectors and others were there.

The scribes and Pharisees complained to Jesus’ disciples that He ate with tax collectors and sinners.

A disciple is a learner or follower of a teacher.

Jesus’ reply was:

The sick, not the well, need a physician.
He didn’t come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Verses 33-39

Who questioned Jesus, and how did He answer?

It seems that “they” in verse 33 is referring to the scribes and Pharisees. They asked about His disciples not fasting and praying like those of John and the Pharisees.

Jesus replied that no one makes the bridegroom’s attendants (ESV—wedding guests) fast while he’s with them. They’ll do that when he’s taken away. Jesus was the bridegroom. His disciples would fast after He was taken away, not while He was with them.

What parable did Jesus use? And ask your group what they learned from the article about parables.

Then He told a parable about old and new not being compatible. The old was passing away, and the new was occurring. The new was what John prepared people for—salvation through the ministry of Jesus.

Ask what your group noted on their At a Glance chart as a theme for this chapter.

Simon Peter, James, John, and Levi follow Jesus

To end your discussion, you might ask your group how Isaiah 61:1-2 was fulfilled in Jesus' ministry in Luke 4 and 5. Help them to relate His ministry to them.

LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 4

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 6

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember about Luke 1–5. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

Luke wrote what he had investigated carefully / followed closely for Theophilus to know the exact truth / have certainty. He wrote about Jesus.

Luke 1 Gabriel announced births of John and Jesus; John the Baptist was born

Luke 2 Jesus' birth

These two chapters are the foundation for the rest of Luke.

Luke 3 John preached / proclaimed baptism of repentance; Jesus' baptism; a genealogy

This is the beginning of both John's ministry and Jesus'.

Luke 4 Jesus' temptation, teaching in Nazareth and Capernaum

Jesus quoted from Isaiah 61 which describes His ministry. Verse 43 also tells why He came. From this chapter on in Luke that's what He did.

Luke 5 Simon Peter, James, John, and Levi followed Jesus

Verse 32 is another statement about why Jesus came—to call sinners to repent

You might also ask where Jesus was in Luke 4 and 5.

He was in the wilderness and then in the area of Galilee.

LUKE 6

Verses 1-5

What are these verses about?

Jesus and His disciples were in some grain fields on the Sabbath. Some Pharisees were either with them or somewhere close enough to see them.

The disciples picked / plucked grain, rubbed it in their hands, and ate it.

The Pharisees asked why they did what was unlawful on the Sabbath.

Jesus responded to them with an illustration from the Old Testament.

This compares with His using God's Word when He resisted the devil's temptations.

Give time for your group to discuss any application about knowing and using God's Word.

Then you might ask what they learned about Jesus being the Lord of the Sabbath.
At this point, you can begin a simple list for a visual aid. See the last page of this lesson's guide.

He then said the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.

This is the second time in Luke Jesus referred to Himself as the Son of Man. In Luke 5:24 He said the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins.

“Lord” means “master . . . owner”⁴; or “supreme in authority.”⁵
The Sabbath is the day for rest.

Mark 2:27

Jesus said the Sabbath was made for man, not the reverse.

Ask your group what they think about this and how it relates to their lives.

Verses 6-11

When and what are these verses about? How does the flow of thought continue from the beginning of this chapter?

On another Sabbath
The Lord of the Sabbath was teaching in a synagogue.
Compare this with Luke 4:16-21 and 31-33.

And again scribes and Pharisees were watching Jesus for a reason to accuse Him.
The Lord of the Sabbath asked a question about doing good or harm on the Sabbath.
Then He healed the man's withered hand.

The scribes and Pharisees were filled with rage / fury and they discussed what to do to Jesus. Compare this with what happened in the synagogue at Nazareth, Luke 4:28-29.

Verses 12-16

What is the next event in this chapter?

Jesus went to a mountain and spent a whole night in prayer.
The next morning He chose twelve apostles from His disciples.

Ask your group what they remember about “disciples,” and what they learned as the definition of “apostles.”

⁴Barclay Moon Newman, Jr., *A Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*. (Stuttgart, Germany: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft; United Bible Societies, 1993), p. 105.

⁵James Strong, *The New Strong's Dictionary of Hebrew and Greek Words* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997, c1996), G2962.

Disciple—follower, learner, pupil
Apostle—“messenger,”⁶ “delegate,”⁷ “one who is sent”⁸

In Luke 5, Simon Peter, James and John, and Levi followed Jesus.
They were also among the twelve chosen and named as apostles.
These men were chosen by Jesus for a specific reason.

Judas later became a traitor.

How does verse 12 relate to what Jesus did in verse 13? Then tell your group to look at Luke 5:16 and ask how prayer applies to them.

Verses 17-19

Who are these verses about? Tell your group to look at the map as a visual aid here.

When Jesus and the twelve apostles came down from the mountain to a level place

There was a large crowd of His disciples

There was also a great throng / multitude of people from:

All Judea

Jerusalem

Coastal region (ESV—seacoast) of Tyre and Sidon

They came to hear Jesus teach and to be healed.

What was Jesus’ ministry? Who is He? What does He do?
How does Luke 1–6 have meaning for people today?

Verses 20-49

Who are these verses directed to? What did Jesus teach them?

He looked at His disciples, those who were following Him and learning from Him.

He taught them about those who are blessed.

That’s contrasted with several woes.

He taught them about love and contrasted that with judging.

Ask your group what they learned from their study of what Jesus taught in these verses.
Tell them to look at the chart in the lesson as a visual aid for this part of your discussion.

⁶Barclay Moon Newman, *Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*. (Stuttgart, Germany: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft; United Bible Societies, 1993), p. 23.

⁷Horst Robert Balz and Gerhard Schneider, *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1990-c1993), 1:142.

⁸Timothy Friberg, Barbara Friberg and Neva F. Miller, *Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*, Baker’s Greek New Testament library (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 2000), p. 71.

Blessed

Poor—kingdom of God
Hunger now—shall be satisfied
Weep now—shall laugh
Hated
Ostracized / excluded
Insulted / reviled
Scorned for sake of / spurned on account of Son of Man
be glad / rejoice—reward in heaven is great

NOTE: The context indicates that all of the above is because of following Jesus, the Son of Man.

The prophets were treated the same way.

Woe

Rich—receiving full comfort (ESV—have received consolation)
Well-fed / full now—shall be hungry
Laugh now—shall mourn and weep
All speak well of you

The false prophets were treated the same way.

What are verses 32-35 about? And ask about the definition of love.

Love, do good, bless, pray, give, treat others as you would be treated

“Love”—esteem, a matter of will and action

What is the reasoning in verses 32-34?

Loving people who love you is what sinners do. Jesus’ disciples must do what He did.

How do verses 35-36 relate to verses 27-31 and James 2?

These things are what the Father, the Most High does.
He’s kind and merciful to ungrateful and evil men.

James 2:12-13

Judgment will be according to the law of liberty.
It will be merciless to the one who has shown no mercy. Compare this to Luke 6:36.
Mercy triumphs over judgment.

What are the commands in verses 37-38? Discuss definitions.

Don't judge or condemn others.

“Judge”—“decide,”⁹ “select,”¹⁰ “judge one thing better than another”¹¹
“Condemn”—“pass sentence upon,”¹² “to pronounce guilty”¹³

Pardon / forgive them and give

“pardon” / “forgive”—“set free . . . dismiss,”¹⁴ “to loose from”¹⁵

Bless them, pray for them, give, treat as you want to be treated.

What do verses 39-45 have to do with judging?

It's impossible for the blind to lead the blind. Someone who sees has to lead.
Jesus was the one who could see.

After a disciple, follower, has been trained, he should be like his teacher.

Jesus, the Teacher, spoke to His disciples.
He told them how to be like Him.

Don't judge or condemn a brother; judge yourself. Then you can clearly see to help or lead a brother.

The way to judge is by fruit.
Good fruit—good heart
Bad fruit—evil heart
A person's mouth speaks what's in the heart.

Give time for your group to discuss the good fruit described in this chapter. How do they apply this to their lives?

Love your enemy, bless, pray

⁹Robert L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition* (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), G2919.

¹⁰James Strong, *Enhanced Strong's Lexicon* (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995), G2919.

¹¹James Swanson, *Dictionary of Biblical Languages With Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)*, electronic ed. (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

¹²Robert L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition* (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998, 1981), G2613a.

¹³James Strong, *Enhanced Strong's Lexicon* (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995), G2613.

¹⁴Horst Robert Balz and Gerhard Schneider, *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1990-c1993), 1:140.

¹⁵W.E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White, *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*, electronic ed. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997, c1996), 2:520.

Ask about the cross-references on judging.

Matthew 7:1-2

This says the same thing as Luke 6:38. Judgment will be according to the standard or measure a person uses for others. Mercy is better than judging.

John 7:24, 51

Right judgment is based on the Law / law and what's right, not appearances.

James 4:11-12

Speaking evil against a brother is judging him. It's also judging the law.
God is the only Lawgiver / lawgiver and Judge / judge.

Again, this says don't judge.

Romans 2:1-3

The one who judges another condemns himself if he does the same thing as the one he judged. God's righteous judgment will fall on all who practice sin. No one will escape.

Zechariah 8:16-17

Render judgments with truth / that are true and make for peace.

Give your group time to discuss application from verses 20-45 and the cross-references.
Then ask about verses 46-49.

One who hears Jesus' words, good words, and does what He says is His true follower.
He's the one who is blessed.

Those who don't do what He says will come to ruin—judgment. Woe to them.
They're the sinners and evil people.

What is a possible theme for this chapter? Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart.

Lord of Sabbath, 12 apostles chosen, blessings and woes

What are Jesus' words, in this chapter, that need to be obeyed?

Some in your group might need to examine themselves.
Are they showing mercy to others, loving others?
Are they truly following Jesus' example?

Visual aid list

Son of Man
Lord of Sabbath
taught, healed, prayed

LUKE PART 1 LEADER GUIDE Lesson 5

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 7–8

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember as the main events of Luke 1–6. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

Luke 1 and 2 are the foundation for the rest of Luke. These chapters prophesy about John's and Jesus' births. The prophecies tell what they'll do.

Luke 3 tells the beginning of both John's and Jesus' ministries.

Luke 4 contains the Isaiah 61 quote which, with verse 43, describes Jesus' ministry. Luke 5 also tells why He came—to call sinners to repentance.

Luke 4–6, Jesus ministers to people as described in Luke 1, 4, and 5 and Isaiah 61.

You might also ask where Jesus was in Luke 4–6.

He was in the wilderness and then in the area of Galilee.

Tell your group to look at the map as a visual aid for this discussion.

NOTE: Luke 7 and 8 are long chapters, so don't lose your time as you discuss chapter 7. Be sure to leave enough time for a good discussion of Luke 8.

LUKE 7

Verses 1-10

Ask what they learned about Jesus from the main events in these verses.

After Jesus' teaching in Luke 6, He went to Capernaum.

There He healed a centurion's slave / servant.

The centurion was a Gentile whom the Jews respected.

He built the synagogue for those Jews in that area, and he loved Israel.

The Jewish elders said the centurion was worthy for Jesus to do what he asked.

But the centurion knew he was not worthy for Jesus to come to his home.

This is similar to what Peter said in Luke 5:8.

The centurion understood authority and believed Jesus could just say the word and his slave / servant would be healed.

Jesus said to the crowd following Him that the Gentile centurion had greater faith than any in Israel. And Jesus granted the man's request to heal his slave / servant.

Verses 11-17

What was the miracle in these verses? What result?

Jesus went to Nain and raised a man from the dead.

He had compassion on a dead man's mother. He told the dead man to arise, and he did.

The result was fear, glorifying God and a statement that a great prophet was among God's people. God visited His people—relate this to Luke 1:68.

A report about Jesus spread throughout the whole of Judea and all surrounding district / country.

You might ask your group what they are learning about Jesus' compassion and how that relates to them.

Verses 18-35

Who else heard a report? What are these verses about?

A report also went to John.

At this time John was in prison, Luke 3:20. He relied on his disciples for information about Jesus. He sent a question to Jesus.

Jesus gave them proof at that very hour. Then He told them what to say to John. The statement about the blessed one in verse 23 is part of Jesus' answer to John's question. And blessed is the one who isn't offended at / by Him.

John needed to continue believing Jesus was the one.
Maybe John's faith was tested because of his imprisonment.

Jesus then addressed the crowds about John. He was a prophet and fulfilled prophecy. Both Jesus and John fulfilled prophecies—the first time this was stated was in Luke 1 when Gabriel announced their births.

But those in the kingdom of God are greater than John. Because of that statement some declared God as just. The people in verses 29-30 are contrasted as those who were baptized with John's baptism and those who were not.

Ask your group what they remember about John's baptism.

Luke 3:3 describes John's baptism as a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. Then in verses 4-18, John told about this repentance. There are fruits that indicate repentance has taken place.

How does this relate to Luke 7:30-35?

The Pharisees and lawyers rejected God’s purpose for them—repentance, therefore no forgiveness.

This describes what those who reject repentance are like. They rejected both John and Jesus—the two men sent from God to bring forgiveness and salvation.

Verse 35 seems to say that those who repent and have fruits of repentance will become evident. They were the wise.

Does this explain some today who claim to be believers? How?

Verses 36-50

What are these verses about? What does this teach about true salvation?

As a visual, you might use what’s at the end of this discussion guide.

Jesus entered a Pharisee’s house to eat with him.

A sinful woman heard He was there and came to anoint His feet.
She was an example of one who repented and was forgiven.

Luke 1:77-78 says that salvation comes because of God’s mercy.

Luke 5:20-23, God is the one who forgives sins. Jesus forgives because of His mercy and compassion.

The woman repented and had faith. Then because of God’s mercy in forgiving and saving her, she loved Him.

Give time for your group to discuss any relevant application from this chapter.

Ask your group what they noted as the theme of this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Dead man raised; John asked if Jesus was the Expected One / one who is to come;
woman’s sins forgiven

LUKE 8

Verses 1-3

Where was Jesus, and what did He do? Who was with Him?

Jesus was proclaiming and preaching (ESV—bringing the good news of) the kingdom of God in other cities and villages.

Those with Him:

The twelve

Some women who had been healed of evil spirits

Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna

Many others who supported / provided for Jesus and the twelve

Verses 4-15

What are these verses about?

A large / great crowd was coming together from various cities / towns.
Jesus told them a parable.

Ask what your group learned about parables from the article in the Appendix.

True to life story or proverb teaching a main theme of truth, moral lesson.
Not every detail has a specific spiritual meaning.

What is this parable about? Tell your group to look at their chart in the lesson as a visual aid for this part of the discussion.

Sowing seed on four different kinds of soil

His disciples asked Him what the parable meant, and He explained it to them.

They were the ones who had ears to “hear” because they were granted / given to know the mysteries / secrets of the kingdom.

Verse 10 also explains that the parable was about the kingdom of God.

Those who didn’t have ears to “hear” couldn’t see or understand. They were the ones who were unrepentant, didn’t believe.

Ask what your group learned from the other Gospels about parables.

Matthew 13:10-17, 34-35

Isaiah’s prophecy was fulfilled, Luke 8:10.

People have to hear and understand from their hearts.

This prophecy in Isaiah is about those who won’t. Like the scribes, Pharisees, etc.

Mark 4:10-13

People who don’t understand are those outside the kingdom, those who aren’t forgiven.

They are the ones who don’t repent.

What was Jesus’ explanation of the parable in Luke 8:5-15?

Seed Word of God

| | | |
|------|-----------------------|--|
| Soil | people who “heard” it | |
| | Those beside the road | “heard,” devil took God’s word away, not believe and be saved |
| | Those on rocky soil | joy when “heard,” no root, believe for a while, fall away in temptation / testing |
| | Seed among thorns | “heard,” choked with worries / cares, riches and pleasures; no fruit to maturity |
| | Seed in good soil | “heard” in honest and good heart, hold it fast, bear fruit with perseverance / patience |

Ask your group what they learned from this parable about true Christianity.

Verses 16-21

How do these verses relate to what Jesus said about the previous parable?

After lighting the lamp, one puts it on a lampstand so others can see it. This seems to relate to the fruit or result that comes from “hearing” and understanding the Word of God.

There is a warning about how one “listens / hears.” The one who has ears to “hear” was granted / given to know the mysteries / secrets of the kingdom of God. More will be given to him.

For the others, what they have will be taken away. Relate this to Luke 6:24-25.

Those who “hear” and do what God’s Word says are the ones in Jesus’ family. They are the ones who repent, believe, are forgiven and saved.

Verses 22-25

What is the next event?

Jesus and His disciples were in a boat going to the other side of the lake, the Sea of Galilee. A dangerous windstorm came while Jesus was asleep. They woke Him saying they were perishing.

Jesus rebuked the wind and waves, and they stopped.

He asked, “Where is your faith?”

They asked, “Who is this . . . ?”

Give time for your group to discuss who they understand Jesus to be.

Verses 26-39

What are these verses about? Who else obeys Jesus?

On the other side of the lake was the country of the Gerasenes. There was a man possessed by many demons. He called Jesus the Son of the Most High God.

Jesus commanded the demons, and even they obeyed Him. After giving them permission to enter a herd of swine / pigs, they rushed over a steep cliff into the lake and drowned.

Again, a report about Jesus spread to the surrounding district. The people were fearful and asked Jesus to leave. But the man who had been healed asked to stay with Him.

The man went throughout the whole city proclaiming what Jesus had done for him.

Who, what obey Jesus?

People who believe, the wind, the waves, and even demons

Verses 40-56

What else happened in this chapter? What else obeys Jesus, Son of the Most High God?

After Jesus and His disciples returned to the other side of the lake, the Galilee area, a crowd was waiting. One of them was Jairus, a synagogue official / ruler. He implored Jesus to come to his house because his twelve-year-old daughter was dying.

Although the crowd pressed against Jesus, He knew when a woman touched the fringe of His garment and was healed.

Numbers 15:37-41 and Deuteronomy 22:12

The Lord told Israel to make tassels on the corners of their garments to remind them of God's commandments and to obey them.

Matthew 23:1-2, 5

The scribes and Pharisees lengthened the tassels of their garments.

Mark 6:56

This woman in Luke 8 was not the only person who was healed by touching the fringe of Jesus' cloak or garment.

The fringe might be the same as the tassels to remind the people of obedience to God's commands.

Jesus knew healing power had gone out from Him. Although He knew the answer, He asked who it was. Then He spoke to the woman and the crowd.

Give time for your group to discuss what they learned about this woman and her condition.

For twelve years the woman had a hemorrhage / discharge of blood.
This was as long as Jairus's daughter had been alive.

Leviticus 15:19-31

A woman in this condition was considered unclean. So was anyone who touched her or anything she touched. People were to stay away from the unclean. She probably had a life of extreme loneliness.

What did Jesus tell the woman in verse 48?

Her faith had made her well.

How does this compare with what He said in verse 50?

Jairus's daughter died, and Jesus went to their house. He told the parents to believe, and she would be made well. Then He raised her from the dead. Even death obeys Him.

Jairus and his wife were amazed and instructed by Jesus to tell no one what had happened.

What is this chapter about? Ask your group what they noted for the theme on their At a Glance chart.

Parable of sower, seed, soil; wind, water, demons, death obey Son of Most High God

To end this discussion, you might again ask your group what they learned about true salvation and about who Jesus is that sickness, wind, waves, demons, and death obey Him.

Visual aid

Repent → forgiveness of sins → love God

Faith → saved

**LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 6**

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 9

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember as the main events of Luke 1–8. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

Luke 1 and 2 are the foundation for the rest of Luke. These chapters prophesy about John's and Jesus' births. The prophecies tell what they'll do.

Luke 3 tells the beginning of both John's and Jesus' ministries.

Luke 4 contains the Isaiah 61 quote which, with verse 43, describes Jesus' ministry. Luke 5 also tells why He came—to call sinners to repentance.

Luke 4–8, Jesus ministers to people as described in Luke 1, 4, and 5 and Isaiah 61.

You might also ask where Jesus was in Luke 3–8.

It seems He was primarily in the area of Galilee.

LUKE 9

Verses 1-6

You might begin this part of your discussion by asking your group if they remember the definition of the word “apostle.” How does that relate to these verses?

An apostle is a delegate or messenger, one who is sent.

Jesus had chosen the twelve to be apostles in chapter 6; now He sent them out.

How did He prepare them and what were the instructions?

He gave them power and authority over all demons and to heal / cure diseases

He sent them to

Proclaim the kingdom of God

Heal

They were to take nothing and stay in only one home in each city.

If they were not received, they were to shake the dust of that place off their feet as a testimony against those who didn't receive.

Those who didn't receive would be the ones who didn't believe the message about the kingdom of God. Therefore, they didn't repent of their sins.

They had no faith, and therefore not saved.

Where did the apostles go?

Tell your group to look at their map as a visual aid.

Throughout the villages, probably of the Galilee area

Verses 7-9

Who and what are these verses about?

Tell them to look at "Herod's Family Tree" as a visual aid.

Herod Antipas the tetrarch of Galilee, Luke 3:1, heard what was happening.

Luke 3:19-20, Herod locked up John in prison.

In Luke 7, John was still alive, but in prison.

Herod had John beheaded at some point after that.

Part of what Herod heard was that John had risen from the dead. Herod was perplexed, but also was trying to see Jesus.

Verses 10-17

What happened after the twelve returned to Jesus?

They told Jesus all they'd done.

He took them to Bethsaida.

Crowds followed.

He welcomed them, spoke about the kingdom of God, and healed.

This is what He came to do—Luke 4:17-21, 43.

Give your group time to discuss application whenever it comes up in the discussion.

You might begin a short list about following Jesus as a visual aid. See the end of this guide.

What happened in verses 12-17?

Jesus told His disciples to feed more than 5,000 people from five loaves and two fish.

He blessed the food and kept giving it to the disciples to give to the people.

After the people all ate and were satisfied, there were twelve baskets full.

Verses 18-22

How did Jesus' question relate to the other events in this chapter?

The answer from the disciples was the same Herod heard, verses 19 and 7-8.

His second question was answered by Peter. Jesus is the Christ of God.

He had demonstrated this since the beginning of His ministry, Luke 3:21-23.
The angels announced this to the shepherds in Luke 2:11.
Simeon said it in the temple, Luke 2:26.
Luke 4:41, demons knew Him to be the Christ.

What is the definition of Christ?

*“the Anointed One, Messiah”*¹⁶

Ask your group who they say He is. Give time for them to discuss what they’ve learned about Jesus so far in Luke and what it means to them.

What did Jesus tell the disciples in verses 21-22?

Again, He said not to tell anyone that He’s the Christ.

Then He told them what would happen to Him.

Suffer and rejected by elders, chief priests, and scribes
Killed
Raised on third day

Verses 23-27

How is His call in these verses related to what was going to happen to Him?

His true disciples, those who follow Him, must do as He was about to do.
Lay down one’s life

Jesus’ disciples are to lay down their lives, as He did.
They’re not to be ashamed of Him while they live for Him until He returns.

Give your group time to discuss application.

Verses 26-27 also tell what’s going to happen.

The Son of Man will come in His glory—His second coming.
Some with Him not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.

NOTE: This might mean they didn’t die until they were part of the kingdom. There are differing views on what this means. Some think it’s about Peter, James, and John seeing Jesus in His glory, verses 28-36.

¹⁶ Robert L. Thomas, *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek Dictionaries: Updated Edition* (Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc., 1998), G5547.

Verses 28-36

What is the event of these verses? How does it relate to Jesus' statement in verse 27?

8 days later
Jesus took Peter, James, and John to pray up on the mountain
They saw Jesus in His glory, verse 26 and 32.

NOTE: Matthew 17:2 and Mark 9:2 say Jesus was "transfigured." This event is usually referred to as "the transfiguration."

Moses and Elijah were with Him, and they were speaking about His departure from Jerusalem—His departure to the Father in heaven.

They heard the Father's voice from the cloud. Relate this to Luke 3:22.
Listen to Him, even above Moses and Elijah—maybe referring to the Law of Moses and the Prophets, Elijah being one of them.

They didn't report to anyone what they'd seen at that time. But they did later. This account is in three of the four Gospels and 2 Peter.

Ask your group what Peter wrote about this in 2 Peter 1:12-18.

Peter was about to die when he wrote this letter.
He had been an eyewitness of Jesus' majesty. Relate this to Luke 1:2.

You might ask your group if they truly know Jesus, who He is.

He's not just the Son of Man, but the Majestic one who is to come as King.

Verses 37-50

What happened next?

The next day, another large crowd met Him. He healed a boy who had a demon.
Jesus referred to the people as an unbelieving / faithless and perverted / twisted generation.

Who are verses 44-50 about and what did Jesus say?

Jesus told the disciples again what was going to happen to Him, verses 44-45.

Then He told them that the least one among them was the greatest because they started to argue among them as to who was the greatest.

Relate this to verses 23-24.

John told Jesus of someone casting out demons in His name. They tried to prevent him.
But Jesus said not to hinder him. He who is not against you is for you.

Jesus was preparing His disciples.

Ask your group what application they learned from these verses.

Verses 51-62

What are the events in this segment? When does this take place?

When the days were approaching for His ascension—when He was leaving earth and returning to heaven with the Father

He was determined to go to Jerusalem. Compare this with verses 22 and 29-31.

Some Samaritans didn't receive Him because He was going to Jerusalem. Compare this with verses 5 and 48. Discuss who receives Him or His messengers.

Give time for your group to discuss how they're received if they're truly His messengers.

How does verse 56 explain why Jesus came?

Even those who didn't receive Him were spared at that time.
The Son of Man didn't come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.

What are the next three encounters, and what does each teach about following Jesus and the kingdom of God?

Someone said that he would follow Jesus wherever He went.

Jesus' response:
The Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.
He had no home on earth.

Jesus said to another, "Follow Me." But the man wanted to first bury his father.

Jesus' response:
Allow the dead to bury their own dead.
You should go and proclaim God's kingdom everywhere.
There are no ties to the dead. Focus on His kingdom.

Another said he would follow Jesus but wanted to say goodbye first.

Jesus' response:
No one looking back is fit for God's kingdom.
Focus on the future and His work.

Jesus' responses show priority, urgency, and commitment.

Ask your group what they noted as the theme of this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Jesus sent out the 12; fed 5,000 and was glorified

Give time for your group to discuss what they've learned about the Lord Jesus and following Him.

visual aid

Following Jesus

He taught, cured and fed those who followed
To follow—deny self, take up cross
No place to lay head
Let dead bury dead
No one looking back is fit for kingdom

LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 7

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 10

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember as the main events of Luke 1–9. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

Luke 1 and 2 are the foundation for the rest of Luke. These chapters prophesy about John's and Jesus' births. The prophecies tell what they'll do.

Luke 3 tells the beginning of both John's and Jesus' ministries.

Luke 4 contains the quote from Isaiah 61 which describes Jesus' ministry. And verse 43 also states His purpose to preach the kingdom of God. Luke 5:32 is another purpose statement in Luke. Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.

Luke 4-9, Jesus ministered to people as described in Luke 1 and Isaiah 61. He also chose and sent out apostles from His group of followers, disciples.

In Luke 9:22, 44 and 51 Jesus told His disciples what was going to happen to Him. He also said what was required of those who truly follow Him.

LUKE 10

Verses 1-12

Who and what are these verses about?

Jesus appointed and sent out seventy / seventy-two others in pairs to go to every city He was going to on His way to Jerusalem.

NOTE: The ESV and some other versions have the number of those sent out as 72 instead of 70 due to a difference in manuscripts used for translation.

He instructed them similarly to what He said to the twelve in chapter 9.

Those who didn't receive them faced judgment for not repenting. They rejected Jesus Himself.

What were the 70 / 72 to say to the cities who received them? Those who didn't?

The kingdom of God has come near you.
Even near to those who didn't receive, believe the truth about the kingdom and its king.
The kingdom was near, but they rejected it.

At any point in this discussion, give your group opportunity to talk about relevant application.

Verses 13-16

How do these verses continue from the previous? Also, discuss the cross-reference in Revelation. Tell your group to look at the map as a visual aid.

This tells of a few cities that didn't receive or believe what they heard and saw.

Chorazin and Bethsaida would be judged worse than Tyre and Sidon because of the miracles / mighty works Jesus did there.

Capernaum would be brought down to Hades, the place of the dead.

Revelation 20:11-15

This is the judgment of the dead; both death and Hades give up those whose names are not in the book of life. They're thrown into the lake of fire, the second death.

Verses 17-24

What happened in these verses?

Tell your group to look at their page about Satan and Demons as a visual aid, if needed.

The 70 / 72 returned with joy.
They commented about the demons being subject to them in His name.

Jesus told the 70 / 72 to rejoice that their names were recorded in heaven, unlike those who didn't repent. He had given them authority over demons, but that is not what brings rejoicing.

Jesus rejoiced because God revealed the hidden things to infants instead of the wise and intelligent.

The Son also reveals who the Father and Son are to whomever He wills.

What do the cross-references in John and 1 Corinthians add?

John 1:9-13

God gives the right to be His children to those who receive Jesus.
They are the ones who believe, are born of God.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

God didn't choose many wise, mighty, or noble. Instead he chose the foolish, weak, base, and despised to nullify the things which are, so that no one can boast before Him.

Jesus became wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption to believers.

Lead your discussion back to Luke 10:23-24. What did Jesus say?

He told the disciples that many prophets and kings had wanted to see and hear what they saw and heard—Him. They were blessed because of seeing.

What did Peter later write that's similar to this?

1 Peter 1:10-12

Even the prophets who prophesied and wrote some of the Old Testament books longed to know who or what time they spoke about.

They were serving others, not themselves.

That's what Jesus called His followers to do also.

Verses 25-37

Why did Jesus tell about the "Good Samaritan"?

A lawyer tested Jesus by asking Him what to do to inherit eternal life. So Jesus referred him back to the Law.

Love God and your neighbor. The lawyer then asked who is his neighbor.

The neighbor was the one in need. This man who loved the law was not to do as the priest and Levite had done, but as a Samaritan had done.

The Samaritan showed mercy.

Ask what your group learned about Samaritans from the cross-references.

2 Kings 17

Samaria had been the capital of the northern kingdom of Israel. The Assyrians captured them and left only a few. They also sent people from other nations they'd captured to live in Samaria. As a result, intermarriages and a mixing of religions took place.

John 4

By the time of Jesus, the Jews hated the Samaritans. They had no dealings with them, except for Jesus.

Give time for your group to discuss application here.

Verses 38-42

Tell them to look at the chart in the lesson as a visual aid. Who and what are these verses about? Also ask about the word study.

Martha was distracted by her preparations and serving.

Distracted means “to draw different ways at the same time.”¹⁷

Mary sat at Jesus’ feet and listened to His words. She chose the good which won’t be taken away.

One thing is necessary, more necessary than serving—sitting at Jesus’ feet and hearing His word.

How do Philippians 3 and Psalm 27 compare with Luke 10:42?

One thing

Forgetting what is behind

Press on toward the call, following Jesus and being like Him

Seek to be always in His presence

Ask your group what they noted on their At a Glance chart as a possible theme for Luke 10.

70 /72 sent out; good Samaritan; Mary and Martha

You might end this discussion by asking if they get distracted by preparations and serving. Do they become worried / anxious and bothered / troubled about things?

¹⁷Spiros Zodhiates, *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*, electronic ed. (Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 2000, c1992, c1993). G4049.

**LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 8**

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 11

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, tell your group to look at their At a Glance charts.
What do the first two chapters tell as the foundation for the rest of Luke?

Luke 1:1-4, why this Gospel was written

Luke wrote an account which he had investigated carefully / followed closely for Theophilus to know the exact truth / have certainty. He wrote about Jesus.

These chapters announce the births of John, the forerunner of the Lord, and the Lord Jesus Himself. The time for salvation had come.

What is significant about chapter 3? What happened?

John preached / proclaimed a baptism of repentance; Jesus was baptized and began His ministry when He was about 30 years old.

This chapter is the beginning of both John's and Jesus' ministries.

What happened in the Nazareth synagogue in Luke 4? How does that reflect the rest of Jesus' ministry in chapters 4–10?

Jesus quoted from Isaiah telling what His ministry would consist of.

Then He did what Isaiah said in Luke 4–10. He told about the kingdom of God.

In His teaching about the kingdom, he warned the religious about their lack of repentance.

He also selected men from His followers to participate in His ministry.

He gave them power and authority and sent them out to tell about God's kingdom and to heal.

Ask what they learned about prayer from Luke 1–10. Tell them to look at their list at the end of the lesson as a visual aid.

Luke 1:10 and 13

The first reference is to the people praying outside the temple at the hour of the incense offering.

The next reference is a petition / prayer Zacharias / Zechariah had made regarding a son. The angel said it was answered.

Luke 2:37

Anna served / worshiped night and day in the temple with fastings and prayers. Prayer is a service / worship.

Luke 3:21

Jesus prayed at His baptism, and the heavens opened and the Spirit descended. Then the Father spoke from heaven.

Luke 5:16 and 33

Jesus would often slip away to the wilderness / desolate places and pray.

John's disciples often fasted and offered prayers. So did the Pharisees' disciples.

Luke 6:12 and 28

Jesus spent the whole night in prayer before He chose the 12.

Pray for those who mistreat you.

Luke 9:18 and 28

Jesus was praying alone, and the disciples were with Him.

He took Peter, James, and John up the mountain to pray. As He was praying, He was transfigured and the Father spoke from the cloud.

Both times the Father spoke—this time and at His baptism—Jesus had prayed.

Luke 10:2 and 21-22

Jesus told the 70 / 72, as He sent them out, to beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

Jesus praised the Father.

LUKE 11

Verses 1-13

What is the event? The teaching?

Tell your group to look at the chart in the lesson as a visual aid.

After Jesus finished praying, one of His disciples asked Him to teach them to pray. He compared it with John teaching his disciples.

Verse 2 begins what is commonly called “The Lord’s Prayer.”

Give your group time to discuss what they learned from both Luke and Matthew 6.

Jesus taught to address prayer to the Father, as He did. It begins with a focus on Him and His holiness.

Matthew 6:10 adds the part about God’s will done on earth.

The request for bread might represent all needs.

Forgiveness is conditional on forgiving others. Relate this to what Luke says about forgiveness—it comes through repentance.

The last part is about temptation. The request is that He not lead into temptation. But when temptation comes, resist it like Jesus did in Luke 4.

NOTE: James says God does not tempt anyone to sin.

Watch your time here, but let them discuss how this teaching about prayer applies to them. You can suggest, *Lord, Teach Me to Pray in 28 Days* for more study.

How does the illustration in verses 5-13 relate to verses 2-4?

Keep on asking, seeking, knocking—persistence in prayer
To receive, find, have opened

God gives good gifts to the one who keeps on asking.

If the one asking is focused on the Father and seeking His will, then the request is given.

NOTE: If someone asks about the Father giving the Holy Spirit to those who ask, remind them that will be studied in the Precept Upon Precept course on Acts.

Verses 14-28

What is the event? The teaching? Tell them to look at the chart “What I Learned in Luke about Satan and Demons” as a visual aid.

Jesus cast out a demon that was mute and afterward, the man spoke.

The crowds were amazed (ESV—the people marveled).

But some said Jesus cast out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler / prince of the demons.

Others kept testing Him by seeking a sign from heaven.

He then taught about Satan’s kingdom and God’s kingdom.

Satan’s kingdom won’t stand if it’s divided against itself.

Jesus didn’t have anything to do with Satan’s kingdom.
He cast out demons by God’s finger to show His kingdom had come.

The illustration is of a strong man being attacked by someone stronger.
God’s kingdom is much stronger than the devil’s.

Unclean spirits can leave a person and come back with others, making the last state worse than the first.

NOTE: In the context of verses 14-26, this must refer to demons cast out by someone other than Jesus or one of those He empowered. Verse 19, Jesus referred to sons of those who accused Him.

Several times Jesus made statements about the faith of those He healed from demons. They would have been the ones who repented and were saved, who became part of God’s kingdom.

How do verses 27-28 fit with this context?

After the woman’s blessing, Jesus said the blessed are the ones who hear and obey God’s Word. They are the ones who become part of God’s kingdom.

Verses 29-36

What is the event? The teaching?

The crowds were increasing.

Jesus referred to “this generation.”

Those who were listening to Him but not doing what He said.
A wicked / evil generation seeks for a sign. Relate this to verse 16.

Then Jesus taught about what would happen to “this generation.”

What was the first illustration? Ask your group what they learned from Luke and the cross-references.

The Son of Man was a sign to this generation like Jonah was to the Ninevites.
The Ninevites, a godless people, repented when Jonah preached about coming judgment.

“This generation” will be condemned by the Ninevites at the judgment because they repented and “this generation” who saw and heard Jesus Himself didn’t repent.

Revelation 20:11-15

The judgment of those not in the book of life, the dead, will be according to their deeds. They’ll be thrown into the lake of fire, the second death.

Matthew 12:38-41

The sign was of Jonah being in the fish for three days and nights.
So Jesus would be in the earth three days and three nights.
This sign was of Jesus’ coming death and resurrection, Luke 9:22, 51.

Who, what is the next illustration for the wicked / evil generation?

The Queen of the South came from far away to hear Solomon’s wisdom.
She’ll condemn “this generation” at the judgment because they heard from the one who is greater than Solomon.

Verses 33-36, when one truly sees the light—understands, then he wants all to see and hear the same. The wicked / evil generation didn’t understand about Jesus.

Give your group time to discuss relevant application. Have they truly repented? Do they want the same for others? What are they doing about it?

Verses 37-54

What is the next event and what teaching accompanies it?

Jesus was invited to dine at a Pharisee’s house.
The Pharisee was surprised that Jesus didn’t wash ceremonially before the meal.

Mark 7:1-4

This says the washings and cleansings were the elders’ traditions.

Jesus taught about the Pharisees keeping the elders’ traditions on the outside, but being wicked on the inside. They were part of the wicked / evil generation who was facing condemnation at the judgment.

Ask about the different woes and what your group learned from each.

Woe to Pharisees

Pay tithe, but disregard justice and love

Love chief seats and respectful greetings

Like concealed tombs (ESV—unmarked graves), people are unaware of it

The lawyers were insulted by this also.

Woe to lawyers

Build prophets' tombs

Your fathers killed them, you approve fathers' deeds

What did Jesus say about this in verses 49-51? Also discuss cross-references.

God would send them, the Jews of Jesus' day—"the wicked / evil generation"—prophets and apostles. Some they would kill, and some they would persecute.

The blood of all the prophets will be charged / required against "this generation."

Genesis 4:1-11 and Hebrews 11:4

Abel was the first prophet. His acceptable sacrifice and faith speak.

He was a righteous man.

2 Chronicles 24:17-21 and Zechariah 1:1

Chronicles is the last book of the Jewish Bible, Tanach.

This Zechariah is the one Jesus mentioned in Luke 11:51 as the last prophet killed by the "fathers."

He was a different Zechariah from the one who wrote the book of Zechariah.

They had different fathers.

What was the last woe to the lawyers?

They had taken away the key of knowledge—the knowledge of God's Word and how to enter the kingdom.

They weren't entering His kingdom, and were preventing others because of their contradictory teaching and traditions.

How does this chapter end?

Scribes and Pharisees were hostile, questioning Him, and plotting how to catch Him in something He might say.

That's why the questions.

If they could trap Him in something, then they had cause to denounce Him and do away with Him.

Ask your group what they noted as the theme of this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Lord's prayer; wicked / evil generation—sign of Jonah; woe to Pharisees and lawyers

To end this discussion, you can ask your group what they're doing with the key of knowledge.

Are they telling others how to enter the kingdom of God by faith in Jesus?

LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 9

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 12

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember as the main events of Luke 1–11. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

What do the first two chapters tell as the foundation for the rest of Luke?

Luke 1:1-4, why this Gospel was written

Luke wrote an orderly account which he had investigated carefully / followed closely for Theophilus to know the exact truth / have certainty. He wrote about Jesus.

These chapters announce the births of John, the forerunner of the Lord, and the Lord Jesus Himself. The time for salvation had come.

What is significant about chapter 3? What happened?

John preached / proclaimed a baptism of repentance; Jesus was baptized and began His ministry when He was about 30 years old.

This chapter is the beginning of both John's and Jesus' ministries.

What happened in the Nazareth synagogue in Luke 4? How does that reflect the rest of Jesus' ministry in chapters 4–11?

Jesus quoted from Isaiah telling what His ministry would consist of—healing, casting out demons, teaching, and preaching the gospel.

In His teaching about the kingdom, he warned the religious about their lack of repentance.

He also selected men from His followers to participate in His ministry. He gave them power and authority and sent them out to tell about God's kingdom and to heal.

Luke 11 ended with the scribes and Pharisees plotting against Jesus.

LUKE 12

There is a short list at the end of this lesson's guide which you can use as a visual aid. Add to it as your group discusses the warnings and instructions in this chapter.

Verses 1-12

How did Jesus' first statement connect with the end of Luke 11?

He warned His disciples to beware of the scribes and Pharisees' hypocrisy.

Verses 2-3 explain that all will be revealed. Nothing is hidden.

What is the next warning in verses 4-7?

Don't be afraid of those who can kill you.

Jesus addressed His disciples as His friends.

He prepared them for what was to come—He was going to be killed.

Then He told them to fear only the One who has authority to cast people into hell.

Ask what your group remembers from Luke about who has authority.
How does Deuteronomy compare?

Deuteronomy 32:39

God gives life and puts to death; He wounds and heals.

No one can deliver from His hand.

Relate this to casting someone into hell.

Ask what they learned about hell or Gehenna.

This Greek word comes from two Hebrew words meaning Valley of Hinnom.

Some think it means a place of burning or fire that's not quenched.

Matthew 5:22, 29-30

Jesus taught about being thrown into the fiery hell.

Matthew 23:33

Here Jesus referred to hell as a judicial sentence—condemnation.

Lead your discussion back to Luke 12.

Who does it seem was heading towards being cast into hell?

The hypocrites, the Pharisees and others, were headed for hell after their death—unless they individually repented before death.

How do verses 6-7 contrast with verses 4-5?

Verses 6-7 are about the disciples. God doesn't forget those who are His, even if or when they face men who are trying to kill them. God's people are valuable to Him.

How did Jesus continue in verses 8-12?

Those who confess / acknowledge Jesus before men will be confessed / acknowledged by Him before God's angels. The contrast is denying Jesus before men and being denied by Him.

Those who blaspheme the Holy Spirit fall into the same condemnation as those who deny Jesus before men—they won't be forgiven, they'll face hell.

What does the cross-reference in Mark add about forgiveness and blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?

Mark 3:28-30

This is another place Jesus talked about blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. In this context, people were saying Jesus had an unclean spirit.

Anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can receive forgiveness if they repent at some point before death.

But blasphemy against the Holy Spirit won't be forgiven because it's an eternal sin.

This is a rejection of salvation for which there is no forgiveness.

Go back to Luke 12. How does Jesus' teaching continue?

Jesus told His disciples in verses 11-12 that they would be brought before earthly authorities because of Him. God was not going to abandon them then.

They could depend on the Holy Spirit when they're before their accusers.

They were not to worry about their defense; He'll tell them what to say.

Verses 13-34

Who are these verses directed to? What did Jesus say?

Another warning—this one against greed / covetousness
Jesus told a parable to the crowd.
Life doesn't consist of possessions. Be rich toward God.

Then He addressed His disciples again about worry or being anxious.

Verse 11, they weren't to worry / be anxious about their defense, and in verses 22-34 it was about their necessities of life.

God provides.
Have faith.
Don't seek necessities or worry / be anxious about them.
Seek God's kingdom.
Don't be afraid—God has given you the kingdom.

Give time for your group to discuss any relevant application.

Verses 35-48

What is the next instruction or warning to Jesus' disciples? Why?

Be ready
The Son of Man is coming when you don't expect Him.

Blessed are the ones who are alert / awake and therefore ready when the master comes.

What is the point of the parables?

There was a question as to whom Jesus' parable was addressed to, the disciples or everyone else in the crowds.

Jesus didn't answer that question but told another parable about being faithful until His return. There is a contrast between the faithful and unbelievers.

Verses 43-44 tell of the faithful and sensible steward (ESV—wise manager). He's the blessed one when the master comes. This is the one who is truly saved, like the last soil in the parable in Luke 8:5-15.

Verses 45-46 tell what happens if that slave who started serving the master, then served only himself. He'll be cut to pieces and assigned a place with the unbelievers.

Then verse 47 tells of another situation—the one who knew the master's will but didn't get ready. He'll be punished with lashes (ESV—severe beating). Verses 35-40 say to be ready. Those who are ready are blessed—the truly saved.

And verse 48 shows still another possibility—the one who didn't know the master's will, committed deeds worthy of a flogging (beating). But he only received a few blows (ESV—light beating).

Much will be required from those who are given much.
Those who know will be judged by what they know.
Those who didn't know will also be judged accordingly.

Jesus was telling about life in God's kingdom.
It's a life of service, and only for the faithful.

Verse 28 says Jesus' disciples had little faith at that time. The faith of the true followers would grow. And the unbelievers would become evident.

You might ask your group what they think about Jesus' return. Do they look forward to it? Dread it? Why?

Verses 49-53

What was Jesus talking about in these verses?

Jesus talks about His first coming after telling His followers to be ready for His second coming.

First, He came to cast fire on the earth. In this context fire is negative. But it wasn't kindled at that time. Some think this is the fire of coming judgment.

Now ask what they learned from the cross-references about fire and judgment.

Isaiah 66:15-16

The Lord will come in fire to execute judgment.

John 3:16-17

Jesus' first coming was to save. His second coming is to judge.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-8

Jesus will come with fire dealing out retribution (ESV—inflicting vengeance) to unbelievers.

Lead the discussion back to Luke 12.

What did Jesus say next? And ask about the Matthew 10 cross-reference.

He came to bring division on earth—division between the faithful and the unbelievers.

Those who repent and receive forgiveness—the faithful, the saved
And those who don't—the unbelievers, the lost

Matthew 10:32-39

This passage is about the contrast of those who confess / acknowledge or deny Jesus and also the division because of Jesus.

Give your group time to discuss any application regarding what Jesus taught.

Verses 54-59

Who did He address, and what did He say?

He told the crowds they needed to analyze / interpret the present time. Things were not the same since He came. You might relate this to Luke 2:34; 5:36-39. Something new was replacing the old, and the two didn't mix.

As He referred to the hypocrites in the crowd, He said they should try to judge what is right. The illustration was settling an account before it went to court. Otherwise, the person was thrown into prison until the account was paid.

Maybe the account that needs to be settled is salvation—get right with God, before it's too late. Be ready. The Son of Man, the judge, is coming.

Ask your group what they noted as a theme of this chapter on their At a Glance chart.

Don't fear, worry / be anxious; be on guard, ready—Son of Man is coming

You might end by asking if Hebrews 4:14-16 applies to them in the situations of this chapter.

Visual aid

Beware of hypocrisy
Don't be afraid, worry / be anxious
The Holy Spirit will teach you
Beware of greed
Be ready

LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 10

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 13–14
- The kingdom of God

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember from Luke 1–12. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

LUKE 13

Verses 1-9

What are these verses about?

The occasion was the same as in Luke 12. Jesus had been speaking to a large crowd with some disciples in it.

Someone reported about Galileans Pilate had killed. So, Jesus asked a question about them. Were they more sinful than others because they suffered this fate?

He answered His own question with a no.

Then he told the crowd that unless they repented, they would all perish.

Verses 4-5 present another situation of people dying and perishing unless they repent.

Ask your group what they've learned from Luke about repentance.

Repent means to change one's mind.

Luke 3:3, 8

John preached a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins.

When a person repents, there is evidence—fruits of repentance.

Luke 5:32

Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.

Luke 10:13 and 11:32

Jesus compared the unrepentant people of Israel with others who repented.

Condemnation at the judgment is the result for those who don't repent.

You might ask if what they've learned in Luke about repentance has caused any of them to rethink what should be included in sharing the gospel.

What is the parable in Luke 13:6-9? How does it relate to verses 1-5?

A man looked for fruit for three years on a fig tree he had planted. He told the vineyard-keeper to cut it down. But the vineyard-keeper asked that it be left for another year so he could give some more attention to it. Then at the end of the next year, cut it down if no fruit.

John taught in Luke 3 that there are fruits of repentance. And if there are none, then those who don't repent face the fire of God's wrath. That's the same thing Jesus said in verses 1-5: no repentance, perish.

Verses 10-17

Who and when are these verses about? What happened?

Jesus again taught in a synagogue on the Sabbath.

A woman was there who had a sickness / disability caused by a demon. She was bent over for 18 years. Verse 16 says Satan had bound her for that long.

He told her she was free from her sickness / disability, laid His hands on her, and she was healed. She was glorifying God. But the synagogue official was indignant because it was the Sabbath. He told the crowd around them to come for healing only on the other six days of the week.

Jesus confronted him by saying he and others were hypocrites.

After Jesus confronted the synagogue official, the crowd rejoiced because of the glorious things He did.

Verses 18-21

What is the kingdom like? What does it mean?

God's kingdom is like a mustard seed and leaven. It grows; it spreads.

At this point, you can ask what they learned about the kingdom of God from Luke 1–12. Tell them to look at "The Kingdom of God" list as a visual aid for this discussion.

Luke 1:33

Jesus, Son of the Most High will rule over Israel on David's throne forever.
His kingdom will have no end.

4:43 He was sent to preach the kingdom of God.

6:20 God's kingdom is for the blessed poor.

7:28

Those in God’s kingdom are greater than John. John was the forerunner of the King. Jesus, the King, brought the kingdom. John was before.

8:1, 10

The twelve disciples and others were with Him when He preached (brought the good news of) the kingdom. It was granted / given to the disciples to know the mysteries of God’s kingdom, but not to the rest.

9:1-2, 10-11, 27, 60-62

Jesus sent out the twelve to proclaim the kingdom of God and heal. And He also kept on speaking to the crowds about the kingdom. In verse 60, He said that those who follow Him are to proclaim it everywhere.

Jesus said to the disciples that some would not taste death until they saw God’s kingdom.

At the end of this chapter, He said no one looking back is fit for the kingdom.

10:9, 11

Jesus also sent out seventy / seventy-two others. They were to say to the city that the kingdom of God has come near—whether or not the city received them.

11:2, 20

Jesus taught His disciples to pray for God’s kingdom to come, evidently the future fulfillment of His kingdom on earth. Jesus cast out demons by God’s finger showing that the kingdom had come. This is similar to Luke 10.

12:31-32

His disciples are to seek His kingdom, not the necessities of life in this world. The Father has chosen to gladly (ESV—it is the Father’s good pleasure to) give Jesus’ followers the kingdom.

13:28-29

Jesus answered a question about only a few being saved, Luke 13:23. He described the place where the evildoers would be—those not saved. Then He spoke of the kingdom, the kingdom where the saved will be. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will be in the kingdom, but those who are not saved will be thrown out of God’s kingdom. Some will come from other places to the table in the kingdom.

Ask your group how all of this compares with the context of Luke 13.

Repent or perish—those who repent enter God’s kingdom.

Those who don’t will perish, face condemnation at the judgment.

Hypocrites fall into the last category, even if they are officials of synagogues.

Verses 22-30

Where was Jesus? What was the question? The answer?

As He was on His way to Jerusalem, teaching from city to city, someone asked if only a few are being saved.

He explained by saying not all who try to enter the kingdom of God will. Salvation is equated with entering His kingdom.

When the door is shut, it's too late.

When it's too late and people who saw and heard Jesus are shut out of His kingdom, they'll be in a place of weeping and gnashing their teeth because they'll see others in the kingdom.

According to verses 1-5, this is what will happen to those who don't repent. This is what Jesus meant by "perish."

Verses 31-35

What are these verses about? Tell your group to look at their map.

Again Jesus was approached by some Pharisees.
They told Him Herod wanted to kill Him, so He should leave where He was.

NOTE: According to Luke 9:51-53, He could have been in the area of Samaria. Herod was tetrarch of Galilee and Perea, so it is possible he was in Perea which is along the border of Samaria and accords with Luke 17:11.

Jesus responded by saying He would not be killed outside of Jerusalem.
And He was on His way there.

Ask what your group observed about Jerusalem.

Kills the prophets

Jesus wanted to gather, but they would not

House left desolate / forsaken

Not see Jesus until they say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."

Not until they recognize who He is.

Ask what they noted on their At a Glance chart as the theme of Luke 13.

Repent or perish; kingdom of God; Jesus on His way to Jerusalem

Remind your group as they discuss the next chapter that Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem and knew what He was facing there. Yet, He ministered to people on His way.

LUKE 14

Verses 1-6

Where was Jesus, and who did He speak to?

He went to a Pharisee leader's house to eat bread / dine on the Sabbath.
There He healed a man of dropsy.

He spoke to the Pharisees and lawyers about healing on the Sabbath.
They couldn't answer because of Jesus' reasoning.

Verses 7-11

To whom and about what did He speak next?

He told a parable to the invited guests.
They were taking the places of honor for themselves.
His parable told them to be humble instead of exalting themselves.

Give your group time to discuss application at any point in this discussion.

Verses 12-14

Who else did Jesus address? What did He say?

The one who invited Him
Invite those who can't repay you—the poor, crippled, lame, and blind
And you'll be blessed, repaid at the resurrection of the righteous
There will be a time when both the righteous and the unrighteous will be repaid.

Verses 15-24

What happened in these verses?

Someone at the table with Him said those who eat bread in the kingdom of God are blessed.

Jesus spoke to the one who said that, and others heard.
This account is about being invited to a big dinner / great banquet.

Those invited made excuses not to come—so they didn't taste the dinner / banquet.

The poor, crippled, blind, and lame were invited. Relate this to verse 13.
They came, but there was still room for others.

People along the highways and streets were invited so the house was filled.

This is about God’s kingdom, verse 15.

Israel was invited—most of the religious didn’t repent to enter His kingdom. They won’t eat bread in the kingdom.

Jesus came to save the sinners—those who couldn’t repay.
They became the righteous who will be resurrected.

The others might refer to Gentiles also invited to His kingdom.

Verses 25-33

Who did Jesus address? What did He explain?

Large crowds following Him

He explained the cost of being His disciple.

Cannot put family, possessions, or own life before following Jesus.

Ask what your group learned about “hate” in this context and the other references in Luke.

Hate is a strong word. It refers to any relationship which can take priority over following the Lord Jesus.

Luke 6:27, 35

Believers are to love all men, even their enemies.

Luke 12:51-53

There will be divisions in families because of some following Him.

Matthew 10:37

Don’t love others more than the Lord Jesus.

How does this connect with “give up / renounce” your possessions (ESV—all you have)?

Give up / renounce means “to set apart, separate.”¹⁸

Matthew 19:29

Those who leave even homes and families to follow the Lord will receive much more and eternal life.

Is there proof of discipleship? What did Jesus say in John?

John 8:31

Proof of being His disciples is continuing / abiding in God’s Word. This is more evidence of those who have turned to God, repented.

James Strong, *Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon* (Woodside Bible Fellowship, 1995), G657.

John 13:35

Another proof or evidence of being Jesus' disciple is loving one another.

John 15:8

Proof of being His disciple is bearing much fruit.

Fruit is evidence—a changed life.

Ask your group how this applies to life now.

Verses 34-35

How does this chapter end?

Jesus addressed this to those who had ears to hear. Compare this with Luke 8:8.

He talked about salt. It's good unless it becomes tasteless. Then it's useless.

The context is being Jesus' disciple. A true follower of Jesus Christ doesn't lose his usefulness. He continues bearing fruit.

Ask what they noted on their At a Glance chart as the theme of Luke 14.

Invited to kingdom; cost of disciples

To end this discussion, you can ask your group how they think Matthew 28:19-20 relates to this lesson and to them.

LUKE PART 1
LEADER GUIDE
Lesson 11

Lesson emphasis:

- Luke 15–16

REVIEW

To begin this discussion, you can ask your group what they remember from Luke 1–14. If they can't remember, then tell them to look at their At a Glance charts.

Luke wrote an account which he had investigated carefully / followed closely for Theophilus to know the exact truth / have certainty. He wrote about Jesus.

The first two chapters announce the births of John, the forerunner of the Lord, and the Lord Jesus Himself. The time for salvation had come.

Chapter 3 is the beginning of both John's and Jesus' ministries. John preached repentance for forgiveness of sins. Jesus' ministry began when He was about 30.

Then, in Luke 4, at the Nazareth synagogue Jesus quoted from Isaiah telling what His ministry would consist of. Then He did what Isaiah said in Luke 4–14.

He told about the kingdom of God. In His teaching about the kingdom, he warned the religious about their lack of repentance. Luke 5:32, Jesus said He came to call sinners to repentance, not the righteous—the self-righteous.

He also selected men from His followers to participate in His ministry. He gave them power and authority and sent them out tell about God's kingdom and to heal.

LUKE 15

Why did Jesus tell the parables about the lost sheep, coin, and son?

Tax collectors and sinners, those He came to call to repentance, were coming to listen to / hear Him.

But the Pharisees and scribes, the self-righteous, grumbled about Jesus receiving and eating with the sinners.

What was the repeated statement at the end of the parables? What was the point?

Rejoice, the lost was found

There is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.
More joy than the “righteous” who need no repentance.

This refers to the self-righteous who think they don’t need to repent.

All three parables are about this one point.

In the parable about the lost son, it’s clear from the context that he represented the sinners who repented.

And the other son might represent the Pharisees and scribes who were angry and refused to go in and celebrate for the other brother.

NOTE: This might be a surprise to some in your group because of what they’ve thought or heard before about the parable of the “prodigal son.” This is a good time to help them understand that parables usually have one main point, and in this case the main point is very clear from the text.

What is the theme of this chapter?

Lost sheep, coin, son found —rejoice

Give time to discuss application—joy when a sinner is saved.

LUKE 16

Verses 1-13

Who was Jesus teaching, and what did He say?

He was speaking to the disciples, but verse 14 says there were also some Pharisees listening to Him.

Jesus told the story of the manager who squandered / wasted his master’s possessions in verses 1-8. Then He gave the interpretation and main points in verses 9-13.

The sons of this age / world, the unrighteous, are shrewd with their own. But the sons of light aren’t as shrewd. The unrighteous use wealth to gain security for the future.

The one who is faithful in little is also faithful in much.
Jesus’ disciples are to use wealth, but not serve it.

Use “unrighteous” wealth (in comparison to eternal riches) to prepare for the future.
If you aren’t faithful in that, who will entrust the true riches to you?

It’s impossible to serve God and wealth.

Verses 14-18

Who did Jesus address in these verses? What did He teach?

The Pharisees loved money.

They scoffed at what Jesus said about it in verses 1-13.

They were the ones who justified themselves, the self-righteous.

But God knew their hearts. What is esteemed by them is detestable to Him.

Give your group time to discuss the difference in how people see or value others and how God does. Ask why they view others as righteous.

What was Jesus' reasoning in verses 16-18? Tell them to look at their "Kingdom" list.

He spoke about things the Pharisees were very familiar with—the Law.

Since John, the kingdom of God is preached instead of the Law and Prophets.

But the Law didn't fail. No part of God's Word fails.

How does the cross-reference in John 1 relate to this?

John 1:17

Moses gave the Law, but grace and truth were realized in Jesus.

Grace and truth were in the Law, but Jesus explained and exemplified them.

Lead your group back to Luke 16 and ask about verses 16-18 and the cross-references in Matthew 3 and 4.

Everyone is forcing his way into the kingdom

The text of Luke has already stated that entering the kingdom of God is a matter of repentance and faith. It's the same as salvation. Not everyone enters.

Matthew 3:1-3; 4:17

Both John and Jesus said repentance was required for the kingdom.

This statement Jesus made was directed to the Pharisees, the self-righteous who thought they automatically entered the kingdom because of who they were.

One point of the Law which the Pharisees evidently were not keeping had to do with divorce and adultery.

Tell your group to look at their drawings as they discuss the next verses.

Verses 19-31

What is this about, and how does it continue the flow of thought?

This is the story of the rich man and poor Lazarus.

They both died.

Lazarus ended up in Abraham's bosom / side with comfort.

Luke 13:28 says Abraham will be in God's kingdom.

But the rich man was in torment in Hades' flames.

At this point you can ask what your group learned about Hades from the cross-references.

Luke 10:15; Matthew 11:23; Acts 2:27, 31; and Revelation 6:8

Hades, the place of the souls of the unrighteous dead, seems to be the opposite of heaven.

Revelation 1:18

Jesus has the keys of death and Hades. He's the one who locks and unlocks.

Revelation 20:13-14

It will be thrown into the lake of fire which is forever.

Now lead the discussion back to Luke 16 and ask what else your group observed.

The rich man pointed to the Pharisees. Abraham's statements in verses 29 and 31 tell that Moses and the Prophets contain the words to lead men to repentance.

Those who wouldn't repent because of what the Law and the Prophets say, wouldn't repent if someone rose from the dead to warn them.

The Pharisees could have known about repentance, but chose not to listen. Therefore, they would not enter God's kingdom.

Ask how this fits with verses 14-18.

Tell your group to look at their At a Glance chart and ask them about a theme for this chapter.

Can't serve God and wealth; rich man & Lazarus

To end this discussion, ask your group what they've learned from their study of Luke 1–16.