

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled – Lent 2025

Session 2: The Early Life of Jesus (Luke 1 – 3)

Read Luke 1

Q: How do Zechariah's and Mary's responses differ to the news brought by the angel Gabriel?

Q: Compare Hannah's prayer 1 Samuel 2: 1-10 to Mary's words in Luke 1: 46-55. What is similar?

Read Luke 2

Q: What is significant about Jesus' birth in such poverty?

Q: Just as a young Jesus is lost for 3 days (Luke 2: 22-52), what are reasons we might lose Jesus?

Read Luke 3

Q: Read Jeremiah 1: 1-3 & Ezekiel 1: 1-3. Compare both passages with Luke 3:1-6. What is similar? What is significant about Luke introducing John the Baptist in this way?

Q: Read about Jesus' baptism in Luke 3: 21-22. Who is present? What can be learned from this passage about the nature of God?

Session 3: Jesus Begins His Public Ministry (Luke 4-6)

Read Luke 4

Q: Read Isaiah 61 about "the year of the Lord's favor" and then read Luke 4: 14-30. What is the "Year of Jubilee?" Why does Jesus quote the first two verses of Isaiah 61? What is he teaching here? How do the people respond to him?

Q: Why does Jesus go deserted places to pray? How can this help our prayer time?

Read Luke 5

Q: After catching an abundance of fish, why does Simon Peter respond to Jesus with: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." (Luke 5: 8)?

Q: In Luke 5: 20-26, how do Jesus' words and actions back up his claim that he is God?

Read Luke 6

Q: Read Matthew's Beatitudes (Matthew 5: 1-12) and compare these to Luke's Beatitudes and Woes (Luke 6: 17-26). What is different/similar?

Q: What is Jesus' calling us to do in Luke 6: 27-36?

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Session 4: The Mission and Miracles of Jesus (Luke 7 - 9)

Read Luke 7

Q: How does the centurion's response to Jesus reflect his faith (Luke 7: 1-10)? Can we apply this to our own lives?

Q: Why does John the Baptist ask if Jesus is the one "who is to come"? How does Jesus reply?

Read Luke 8

Q: Describe some of the women who followed Jesus. In Luke 8: 1-3, how does Jesus relate to women?

Q: What are we to take away from Luke's account of Jesus' calming of the seas (Luke 8: 22-25)?

Q: Read Luke 8: 26-39. Why do the pig herders ask Jesus to leave? Do we ever respond similarly to the presence of Jesus?

Read Luke 9

Q: Read 1 Kings 17: 8-24. how are Elijah and Jesus similar?

Q: How does the miracle of feeding the multitudes connect to the mystery of the Eucharist?

Q: Focus on Luke 9: 57-62. Do you relate to the challenges of the people in this passage? Does anyone care to share the crosses they are taking up this Lent or in your Christian life?

Session 5: Sharing in Jesus' Mission (Luke 10 - 12)

Read Luke 10

Q: Here Jesus rejoices and thanks God the Father. Why is giving thanks essential to prayer?

Q: Read 2 Chronicles 28: 8-15. What parallels are there between this OT passage and the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 29-37)?

Read Luke 11

Q: Reread Luke 11: 2-4; then read Matthew 6: 9-13. What is similar between these two versions of the Lord's Prayer? What is different?

Q: Why is Jesus harsher with the Pharisees than he is with the ordinary sinners he encounters?

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Read Luke 12

Q: Read Luke 12: 34. Think about what you treasure and where your heart is. Do these treasures align with the treasure of God's Kingdom? What are some ways in which can we turn away from the treasures of this world?

Q: In Luke 12: 49-53, what makes Jesus a source of division? What does it mean that there is a "cost of discipleship"?

Session 6: Following Jesus (Luke 13 - 17)

Read Luke 13

Q: What can be learned from Luke's two parables about trees and fruit (Luke 13: 6-9 and Luke 6: 43-44)?

Q: Focus on Luke 13: 20-21. What does this parable tell us about the Kingdom of God?

Read Luke 14

Q: Reread Luke 14: 34-35, then read Matthew 5: 13. What are the practical functions of salt, and how does this relate to people being described as "salt of the earth?"

Read Luke 15

Q: What does the Lost Sheep parable tell us about God?

Read Luke 16

Q: What is the point Jesus is making in the Parable of the Dishonest Steward?

Read Luke 17

Q: In Luke 17: 11-19, why is the number 10 an important detail? What is being symbolized by the Samaritan who returned?

Session 7: The Triumphal Entry and The End Times (Luke 18 - 21)

Read Luke 18

Q: How does the Parable of the Widow and the Unrighteous Judge (Luke 18: 1-8) reflect our own relationship with God? How are God and the Judge different?

Read Luke 19

Q: What can we learn from the conversion of Zacchaeus, the tax collector (Luke 19: 1-10)?

Q: Read 1 Kings: 1: 32-40 then focus on Luke 19: 33-40. What are some similarities between these passages? What do they convey about Jesus' identity?

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Read Luke 20

Q: How does the Parable of the Wicked Tenants (Luke 20: 9-19) represent the conflict between Jesus and the religious leaders of Israel?

Q: In Luke 20: 27-40, how are the Sadducees trying to trap Jesus? How does he respond?

Read Luke 21

Q: What can we learn from Luke 21: 1-4 to apply to our own lives?

Session 8: The Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus (Luke 22 - 24)

Read Luke 22

Q: Read Exodus 24: 5-11 about the covenant with Israel through Moses, then focus on Luke 22: 19-20. What are the similarities? What are the sacrifices in each passage?

Q: Read Daniel 7: 13-14 where the prophet Daniel has a vision. Then reread Luke 22: 66-70. How does the OT passage prefigure what Jesus conveys to the chief priests and scribes?

Read Luke 23

Q: Focus on Luke 23: 6-9. What is the irony behind Jesus' confrontation with Herod? Who is the true king?

Q: What do the 3 "last sayings" of Jesus (Luke 23: 34, 43, 36) tell us about him?

Read Luke 24

Q: How does the story of the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-35) reflect what happens during the Catholic Mass?

Q: Why is Jesus' ascension (Luke 24: 50-51) both joyful and sorrowful? How does the Holy Spirit factor in?