



## Small Group Discussion Guide- Week 2 (Luke 3-9), Day 14

Welcome again to our journey together through the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts this summer! Remember <http://christchurchsl.org/la70> is the learning resources center for pastor's videos, discussion guides, reading plans, and the link to the closed Facebook Group. Also, if you would like a pastor's insight to a question you have about your readings, please email them to [LA70@christchurchsl.org](mailto:LA70@christchurchsl.org) so that a reply may be emailed to you and posted to the Facebook Group.

This discussion guide is provided as a tool for small group discussions that center on the readings for week 2 (Luke 3-9) or for personal reflections for our independent readers. For the best small group discussion it will be helpful to have done the following prior to each meeting:

- 1- Watched the Pastor's video about the readings for the week
- 2- Completed the daily readings for the week
- 3- Noted at least 2-3 questions or insights from the readings to bring to the meeting to share with the group

### Possible Meeting Format for 1 Hour Small Group Meeting:

1. Brief Opening Prayer (1-2 minutes)
2. Discussion of Predetermined Questions & New Questions & Insights from the Group (45 minutes).
  - a. Leader's discretion to be used on question and time management
  - b. You are intentionally provided with more questions than you need
  - c. If people have brought insights or questions from their readings during the week, they are encouraged to share them as the group moves through the verses in order.
3. Summarize Life Application Points From Conversation (5 minutes)
4. Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer (5 minutes)
5. Reminders for the Coming Week & Resources (2 minutes)

### **Predetermined Questions & New Questions & Insights from the Group:**

1. In the Pastor's video for week 2, Pastor Dan mentioned that Luke, who wrote about Pentecost in Acts 2, also frequently referenced the Holy Spirit in the first several chapters of the Gospel of Luke.
  - a. How did the Holy Spirit continue to glorify or bring attention to Christ in the readings this week?
  - b. How has the Holy Spirit and the readings helped you come to a clearer picture of Jesus was and is?



## 2. Day 8, Luke 3

- How would you describe the ministry of John the Baptist in verses 1-19? How did his ministry and baptism prepare the way for Jesus?
- How was the Messiah's baptism to be different than John's (3:15-17)?
- How did the experience of Jesus' baptism (3:21-22) provide an initial picture of the Trinity?
- How did the genealogy given (3:23-37) provide additional signs of Jesus' messiahship?
- \*What other insights or questions do you have from chapter 3?

## 3. Day 9, Luke 4

- How do the scriptures Jesus referenced when facing the temptations of the devil in the wilderness and His example speak to you in your walk of faith (verses 1-13)?
- Jesus read Isaiah 61:1-2 in the synagogue of his hometown in verses 18-19, identified with them as being fulfilled in him. Initially the people seemed to receive it well. What caused the change in the people such that they wanted to throw him off of a cliff shortly after that (4:23-29)?
- Jesus' ministry in 4:31-41 included healing people of sicknesses and casting out demons from people who shouted he was the Holy One of God or the Son of God. Why was it important to Jesus to silence the demons from sharing this information? (see also 5:14-16)
- What can we gather about Jesus' prayer life from verses 42-44? Why was it necessary?
- \*What other insights or questions do you have from chapter 4?

## 4. Day 10, Luke 5

- How did Peter come to be a follower of Christ (5:1-11)?
- Why would he admit he was a sinful man after the miraculous catch of fish (5:8)?
- Why would teachers of law and Pharisees be upset with Jesus in because of claiming to forgive the sins of a paralyzed man He healed (5:21)?
- ...because of eating with a tax collector and inviting him to be a follower (5:30)?
- ...because of His leading of the disciples to eat and drink with others rather than to fast and pray (5:33)?
- \*What other insights or questions do you have from chapters 5?

## 5. Day 11, Luke 6

- How did the tensions with the Pharisees and teachers of the law also increase here in 6:1-10?



- b. How do you think the 12 disciples who were chosen in 6:12-16 got along? Why them?
- c. How was the “sermon on the plain” described in 6:17-49 a fulfillment of Jesus’ claims in 4:18 and 4:43? How was this “good news of the kingdom of God?”
- d. Do you think these teachings’ of Jesus were harder or easier to follow than the teachings of the Pharisees and teachers of the law? Why or why not?
- e. \*What other insights or questions do you have from chapter 6?

6. Day 12, Luke 7

- a. How did the Roman Centurion in 7:1-10 show that he was a “good man [who] brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart (6:45) and have greater faith than most in Israel (7:9)?”
- b. Why do you think John the Baptist appeared to have doubts about Jesus’ identity as messiah (7:18-19)?
- c. How did Jesus’ response (7:22-23) compare with the Isaiah passage he read in the synagogue in Nazareth right after the temptations in the wilderness (4:18-19)?
- d. How was the ministries of John the Baptist and Jesus very different yet both very worthwhile and true (see 5:33-39 and 7:24-35)?
- e. \*what other insights or questions do you have from chapter 7?

7. Day 13, Luke 8

- a. How is the Word of God and Jesus’ teachings presented as crucial to fullness of life in the family of God in 8:1-18?
- b. How would you describe Jesus teaching style with the public and with the disciples (8:8-11)? Was Jesus ok with not being understood by everyone?
- c. What dimensions of reality did Jesus’ prove his Lordship or authority over in 8:22-56?
- d. Why would Jesus ask the healed demoniac to share publicly what God had done for him (8:39) but previously had asked others he had healed not to tell others about it (5:14) and afterwards asked the parents of the raised daughter to not tell anyone (8:56)?
- e. What did Jesus teach about fear and faith in situations of crisis or need (8:24-25, 8:48, 8:50)?
- f. \*what other insights or questions do you have from chapter 8?

8. Day 14, Luke 9 (verses 1-50)

- a. In 9:1, the 12 Disciples were given power and authority by Jesus to drive out all demons and to cure diseases and were sent to “proclaim the kingdom of God



- and to heal the sick” which they did (9:6). How do the ministries of teaching and healing go together? What do these ministries depend on?
- Why couldn't the disciples cast out the demon from the boy in 9:37-43?
  - The crowds followed the disciples as they retreated to Bethsaida where Jesus continued with preaching and healing ministry. The concern of their hunger late in the day by the disciples and Jesus led to the miraculous feeding of the 5,000. What spiritual lesson(s) were conveyed through this miracle in caring for the whole needs of persons? Do you believe there was a deeper point or lesson behind each of the miracles of Jesus so far in Luke?
  - How was clarity about the identity of Jesus brought to a high point in Peter's confession (9:18-20) and the Mount of Transfiguration (9:28-36)?
  - How did Jesus' two predictions of His death (9:21-22 and 9:44-45) contrast with what the messianic expectations may have been at the time among the Jewish people?
  - \*what other insights or questions do you have from chapter 9?

\*If you did not bring any questions or insights ahead of time, the following questions may help you develop some in the moment. (Discussion questions from Immerse: The Reading Bible by Tyndale)

- What stood out to you this week?
- Was there anything confusing or troubling?
- Did anything make you feel differently about God?

### Summary of Life Application Points from the Conversation:

1. How might what we have learned today change how we live?
2. In light of this conversation today and the readings for week 2, what do you believe the Lord is calling you to move towards in your thinking or actions or relationships?

### Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer:

1. What recent life events are worth giving thanks to God for or lifting up as a prayer request before the group?
2. The facilitator closes the meeting in prayer

### Reminders for Next Time & Support Resources:

1. Please bring 2-3 questions or new insights from your readings to our meeting next time on Day 21.



2. If you would like input from a pastor on particular questions about the readings, please email them at [LA70@christchurchsl.org](mailto:LA70@christchurchsl.org) and they will get back to you via email and/or post on the closed LA70 Facebook Group.
3. You can access all resources including the Reading Plan, Online Daily Readings, Pastor's Videos, Discussion Guides and a link to the Facebook Group on the church webpage <http://christchurchsl.org/LA70>.
4. You can directly access the daily scriptures on your smart phone or computer or tablet from the LA70 webpage through the hyperlinks, see <https://christchurchsl.org/la70-reading-plan/>
5. For the leader- if you would like additional background information about the verses each week in addition to information provided in the Pastor's Videos of what to look for in your readings, The Bible Project is another good source. They have a 9 part video series on Luke-Acts, see <https://bibleproject.com/explore/category/luke-acts-series/>