



CULTIVATING A HEART CAPTIVATED WITH JESUS

CENTRE CHURCH
SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021

WEEK 4: SCRIPTURE

LUKE 4:1-30

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Heart Habits looks at the beginning of Jesus' ministry in Luke 4, exploring habits and disciplines Jesus engaged in to maintain a healthy heart in the midst of the chaos surrounding him. These same habits will help Christians cultivate a heart captivated with Jesus even in the midst of uncertain times. This message looks at how Jesus practiced the heart habit of Scripture.

What is the heart habit of Scripture? *The heart habit of Scripture is being so saturated with Scripture that it moves your heart, shapes your thoughts, and drives your actions.*

Where do we see Scripture in the life of Jesus (Luke 4)?

14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.



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MESSAGE NOTES CONTINUED . . .

23 Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

24 "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. 27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

28 All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. 30 But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way. Luke 4:24-30

What's so powerful about Scripture?

Scripture fights against the heart disease of deception.

Scripture makes you a more fully-devoted disciple.

Solitude + Scripture = Nourished by Scripture

Scripture + Compassion = Trained in Gifting

How do you practice the heart habit of Scripture?

Study Scripture in solitude, with humility and resulting in compassion.

Study and obey until you realize Scripture.

Interpret everything through Jesus.



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WEEK 4: SCRIPTURE D-GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

GET TO KNOW YOU

Whether you've been studying the Bible for decades or just days, talk through what some of your favorite Bible stories or verses are and why.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Recap the past three weeks and the heart habits of solitude, humility and compassion. How have you been intentional to cultivate these habits? What has been the result?*
- 2. Read Luke 4:1-12. In the wilderness, Satan tempted Jesus three different times, and each time Jesus drew strength from and countered with a specific Scripture. During your difficult times, what Scriptures do you draw strength from? Share with each other for a few moments.*
- 3. Read Luke 4:14-27 when Jesus was rejected by his hometown of Nazareth. If you've ever been rejected by those closest to you, how badly does that hurt? What kind of emotional scars can that leave? In that rejection, Jesus found his identity in the greater story of Scripture by quoting two Old Testament stories. Is finding our identity in Scripture healthier for us than finding our identity in the opinions of others? How so?*
- 4. Look at the ways (Message Notes) that Pastor Josh talked about how to practice the heart habit of Scripture. What is the result if you don't study Scripture with solitude, humility or compassion, if you take verses out of context or misinterpret them? Why can Christians struggle to get the heart habit of Scripture right?*
- 5. Assignment: Pick a passage of Scripture to study together this next week as a group and come back together next week to discuss. Pick a passage you can apply in your lives.*

Finish your time together with prayer. If you would like Centre Church to pray for anything in particular for you, let your D-Group Leader know.

D-GROUP LEADERS INFORMATION

D-Groups are online, sermon-based discussion groups at Centre Church. Whether you're a lifelong member of Centre Church or a joining us online from around the world, D-Groups are your opportunity to discuss Sunday's message, develop your faith and grow as a disciple of Jesus.

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A D-GROUP LEADER?

There are four main things we ask you be responsible for as a D-Group Leader:

- 1. Lead the D-Group discussion.** *Everyone should have watched (or heard) the message prior to the D-Group meeting and discussion questions are already provided. Your task is to facilitate the conversation, to make people feel welcome, to keep things flowing in the right direction.*
- 2. Pray for your D-Group members by name daily.** *During your time together, God can do mighty things in the lives of your D-Group members (and yours as well). It is your privilege to pray for your members by name daily, asking God to move mightily in their lives.*
- 3. Identify and encourage a next step for your D-Group members.** *Every person has a next step in their relationship with Jesus. Look for next steps your D-Group members might take in their faith and encourage them in those. Examples of next steps are listed in FAQs.*
- 4. Connect your D-Group with Centre Church.** *Centre Church wants to come alongside to strengthen and encourage your D-Group. If you haven't already, register your D-Group with Centre Church so that we can follow up with you, keep up with attendance through the links provided, and pass on any prayer requests and feedback to Centre Church staff for follow-up.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What online platform do I use to host the D-Group meeting? *Whatever platform is the most comfortable for you to use. There are both paid (e.g. Zoom) and free (e.g. Google Hangouts) options available. Set up the meeting and share the link with your D-Group members. If you'd like to open up your D-Group, you can also publicize your group through Centre Church and we will provide a Microsoft Teams video link you can use for no charge.*

How long does a D-Group last? *D-Groups are designed to be short-term groups that last as long as the sermon series or Bible study lasts. These short-term groups allow people to meet new people and study new topics without a long-term commitment. If your D-Group wants to continue to meet after the series or Bible study is over, your group can convert to a Community Group, which is a long-term group that meets either online or in person.*

What are some examples of next steps? *A person surrendering their life to Jesus, getting baptized, taking the Next Steps Track, partnering with Centre Church (church membership), giving financially, serving as a volunteer, meeting with a pastor, going on a mission trip, plugging into a long-term Community Group.*

What do I contact if I need help? *If you have any questions or need some help with your D-Group, please contact abigail.parker@cbcva.org and she will get you the help you need!*