



SERMON REFLECTION GUIDE

Luke, Part 70: Commission & Ascension - Luke 24:46-53 - April 19, 2026

SERMON OUTLINE

Intro - High School Class Reunions & did they have them in the first century Jewish world?

Point: *Where is Jesus right now? What is Jesus doing right now?*

He has given his followers a task, and is empowering them to accomplish it from on high.

Recap up to v. 46, the gospel message that Christ has suffered and risen from the dead.

This message demands a response - repentance, and has a reward - forgiveness.

A. The Commission of Jesus Christ (Luke 24:45-49)

The problem has always been (and still is) - SIN has created a chaos between us and God.

God's solution for sin has been the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- [Response: Repentance](#)

Repentance has been almost entirely abandoned by our culture and even by modern churches.

True Repentance: **Conviction** (Awareness) + **Contrition** (Sadness) + **Confession** (Admittance) + **Change** (A Brand New Direction)

- [Reward: Forgiveness](#)

The Bible often explains God's *steadfast* love, mercy, and grace as *bigger* than sin. God is fully able and willing to forgive sin in a comprehensive way.

See: **1 John 1:9, Isaiah 55:7, Psalm 103:10-12, Micah 7:18-19**

This **Gospel + Response + Reward** must be "proclaimed in Jesus name to all nations" (v. 47)

The main job of the Christian is made clear in Jesus's final instruction:

We are to make the gospel known to anyone and everyone, calling them to repent and trust in Jesus Christ for forgiveness leading to eternal life.

It must be "proclaimed" - it is necessarily a spoken message, cannot be assumed.

Opportunities? In our lives, through our church? So many!

The ability to do it? Jesus promises that we will be "clothed with power" (v. 49) - this promise is fulfilled in **Acts 2** when Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to enable evangelism.

B. The Ascension of Jesus Christ (Luke 24:50-53)

Jesus "led them out" (v. 50) - he is still asking them to "Follow me", and he lifts up his (nail-scarred!) hands to bless them. What kind of blessing? Perhaps: **Numbers 6:24-26?**

Very few details here: **"He parted from them and was carried up into heaven"** (v. 51)

Why? We know enough to have faith despite the relatively small amount of details.

Where is Jesus? **After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.** - **Hebrews 1:3**

What is Jesus doing from this privileged position?

- [Pleading Our Case](#) - interceding on our behalf before the Father and against the devil

Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. - **Romans 8:34**

See also: **Hebrews 4:14-16!**

- [Preparing Our Place](#) - getting our permanent home ready in the Kingdom of God

John 14 - Jesus speaks of going to prepare a place for us, a place where he will one day take us so that we can be with him.

- [Ruling and Reigning](#) - all authorities and governments on earth are under his rightful rule

See: **Heb. 1:3, Col. 1:17, Eph. 1:20-22**

Finish with **Psalm 2 - The Son = The King**

Kiss the Son! (**Ps. 2:12**) — Worship Jesus with great joy! (**Lk. 24:52-53**)



SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How is Luke's version of the Great Commission the same as Matthew 28:18-20? How is it different?
2. Why do people rarely say they are sorry? Why don't we see ready repentance?
3. How would you say that you are participating in accomplishing the Great Commission?
4. Why is it important to understand the Ascension of Jesus?
5. Where is he now and what is he doing?
6. What take aways do you have from our seventy weeks spent in Luke? Anything that has stuck with you?