

## **When Pride Stops You From Seeing Your Savior.**

### **Luke 4:14–30**

#### **What Does The Bible Say?**

14 Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region. 15 He taught regularly in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16 When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures.

(Luke 4:14–16 NLT)

#### **Jesus comes home as a local hero.**

17 The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, 19 and that the time of the Lord's favor has come.” (Luke 4:17–19 NLT)

**Jewish rabbis interpreted this passage to refer to the Messiah.**

**Who would benefit from the Messiah coming:**

**Preach good news to the “poor.”**

**“Prisoners” the word broadly includes many forms of spiritual bondage.**

**“Recovery of sight for the blind.”**

**“Oppressed” is “broken in pieces” or “shattered” or “crushed.”**

20 He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently.

21 Then he began to speak to them. “The Scripture you’ve just heard has been fulfilled this very day!” (Luke 4:20–21 NLT)

**Jesus clarifies that He is the Messiah that the Scripture said was coming.**

22 Everyone spoke well of him and was amazed by the gracious words that came from his lips. “How can this be?” they asked. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” 23 Then he said, “You will undoubtedly quote me this proverb: ‘Physician, heal yourself’—meaning, ‘Do miracles here in your hometown like those you did in Capernaum.’ 24 But I tell you the truth, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown. (Luke 4:22–24 NLT)

**They had enough evidence to believe the message but could not get over who the messenger was.**

25 “Certainly there were many needy widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the heavens were closed for three and a half years, and a severe famine devastated the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them. He was sent instead to a foreigner—a widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon. 27 And many in Israel

had leprosy in the time of the prophet Elisha, but the only one healed was Naaman, a Syrian.” (Luke 4:25–27 NLT)

**Jesus gave two Old Testament examples where the prophets Elijah and Elisha helped Gentiles over Jewish people. This infuriated this Jewish crowd.**

**Their pride blinded them to the truth. Will you let your pride do the same?**

**How Can You Obey?**

28 When they heard this, the people in the synagogue were furious. <sup>29</sup> Jumping up, they mobbed him and forced him to the edge of the hill on which the town was built. They intended to push him over the cliff, (Luke 4:28–29 NLT)

**First, don't be surprised.**

30 but he passed right through the crowd and went on his way. (Luke 4:30 NLT)

**Second, don't give up.**

...and went on his way. (Luke 4:30 NLT)

**Third, don't get sidetracked.**

**Additional Notes:**

If you want to use your home to disciple others, check out our training at [www.crosswaveschurch.com/host](http://www.crosswaveschurch.com/host). Cross Waves has produced short videos to train you to use your home to reach others for Christ. So please check it out.

**Explore:**

Christianity is about more than attending church and living a good moral life. Being a Christian is about having a vibrant

personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Every Sunday School teacher or Bible study leader should want to see each learner enter into this relationship—their eternal destiny depends on it.

As you work toward this goal, keep the following in mind:

Following Christ is more than a mere decision; it is about a lifelong relationship. Jesus called us to make disciples, not mere decision-makers. Aim for long-term faith, not momentary emotion.

Salvation is a matter of grace, not works. Our works do not save us (Ephesians 2:8-9), nor do they keep us (Galatians 3:2-6).

Good works are a product of salvation, not a prerequisite to it.

Don't confuse sanctification with salvation. Holiness follows salvation; it doesn't precede it. Don't try to impose "Christian" expectations on men and women who don't know Christ.

- Keep it simple. Being born again is not complicated. Here's a simple way to explain it:

- Acknowledge your sinfulness and need for a Savior (Romans 3:10, 23).

- Trust in Christ's sacrifice for your sins and His resurrection (Romans 10:9-10).

Surrender your life to God's transforming power (Romans 12:1-2).

Remember that your job is to tell the truth in a way others can understand, answer their questions, and allow them to respond.

If you do that faithfully, some will respond and join the band of Christ- followers. When they do, Heaven will rejoice!

### **Question 1 of 4**

Do you think all Christians have a responsibility to preach the gospel to persons who are poor, blind, imprisoned, etc.? Why or why not?

### **Question 2 of 4**

Everyone is talking about Jesus in Galilee vv. 14–15? Why didn't the miracles He performed elsewhere have more influence on His hometown?

**Question 3 of 4**

What are reasons that people reject that Christ is the Savior?

**Question 4 of 4**

Have you ever had someone turn against you because of your faith? What did you do?