

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE FOLLOWING JESUS ON HIS MISSION

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

“⁹ And he said, “Go and tell these people, ‘No matter how closely you listen, you’ll never understand. No matter how closely you look, you’ll never see.’” Isaiah 6:9 (GW)

“³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.” Ephesians 1:3-14

“³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.” 1 Timothy 2:3-6 (ESV)

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Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What are you looking forward to?
- Who is the most famous person you have ever met?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read Luke 8:4-15. Can you think of people you’ve met that fit the four categories described? Have you ever felt like you’re one of the first three, instead of the last?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Use a question from N.T. Wright’s “Luke: For Everyone” (pg. 53-54).
- Does a normal farmer sow seed on paths, rocks, or thorns? What does it tell you about God that He sows the seed everywhere? Is he picking and choosing who to try to save?
- In Luke 8:4-15, Jesus quotes Isaiah 6:9. What does this tell us about different people’s openness to the word of God? Why do some people not perceive or understand?
- How can we help people move out of the first three categories in Luke 8:4-15 and be transformed into the last?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- What is one thing I can do this week to make sure I’m “Good soil” for God’s Word?
- What’s something I can do this week to help clear some of the obstacles that get in the way of non-believers in my life receiving Jesus?
- What’s one thing I can do this week to help other believers grow and mature in their faith?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- “Father God, help me to cling to your Word and allow it to bear fruit in my life and those around me. Make my discipleship and witness fruitful soil for those on my journey whom Jesus is seeking. Please give me a bountiful harvest and steadfast endurance.” Amen.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three for 15 minutes:

1. How did you see God at work in your life this week?
2. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians?
4. Pray for one another.