

PSALMS

Stand Alone | Luke 4:16-30 | Sunday, August 23, 2026

(5-10 min) Optional Ice Breaker: If you could have one thing provided for you for the rest of your life – something you would never have to worry about again – what would you choose? Why did you choose that? What would having that thing change for you?

LEADERS: Please share these announcements with your Home Group!

Announcements

Mission of God Class Highlight: *Mission of God is a 10-week course that explores God's mission to redeem people from every tribe, tongue, and nation through Bible study, education, and practical application. Designed for students and adults, the course will help you grow in your passion for God's heart for the world and learn how to live missionally both locally and globally. Register here:*

<https://citizenschurchplanotx.subspla.sh/7fyjn47>

Read God's Word Aloud

Luke 4:16-30 (ESV)

¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,

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to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." ²⁴ And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.

Additional scripture references for further study and reflection: 2 Kings 5:1:19 and 1 Kings 17:8-16

Discuss God's Word and God's World

Important: *The goal is to use this Guide to spark sanctifying conversation and opportunities for intercessory prayer, not to "get through" every question like a checklist. Feel free to linger on the questions that best facilitate that for your group.*

Start here: *Take a few moments to share and reflect together on what stood out to you from this week's Bible passage and the sermon about it.*

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- Both the widow and Naaman were outsiders who received God's grace. What does this teach us about who God's people are?
 - If "the Lord is our shepherd," what does it mean that His sheep "lack nothing because the Lord lacks nothing"? How is this different from believing that following Jesus means God will give us everything we want?
 - What does Naaman bring to God that God needs? What does that reveal about the difference between earning God's grace and receiving God's grace?
 - What are some ways we subtly turn Christianity into 'bringing something to God' rather than receiving from God by faith? Where are you tempted to believe that you have something to offer God that makes you more deserving of His grace?
 - The people of Nazareth wanted Jesus on their terms. Where are you tempted to want Jesus on your terms rather than receiving Him as Lord?
 - What is one area of your life where you need to stop trying to provide for yourself spiritually and simply trust what God has already provided in Christ?
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Sanctificational Prayer Guidance

Spend some time thanking God for His mercy and grace. In humble gratitude thank Him that when we come to Him with our need, He provides what we lack.

God, thank You that Your love is not based on what we do, but Jesus' saving work on the cross. Help us to come to you with empty hands and remind us that we don't earn your grace, we freely receive it. Lord, help us to believe that because we have You, we ultimately have what we need. Free us from looking to other things for what only You can provide, and help us by the power of your Spirit to keep our eyes focused on You, the Author and Perfector of our faith.



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Family Memory Verse of the Month for August

Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you.

1 Samuel 12:24 (ESV)