

One Year Bible – Week 12

Summary: Luke reading

The Gospel of Luke may be the most detailed of the Gospels in the sense that Luke's goal is to give an "orderly account" from "careful investigation." (Lk 1:1-4) This week takes us through the Birth of Jesus to the calling of the disciples. Note the differences between Luke and the other two Gospels. You may even want to flip back and forth between them and notice what Luke emphasizes.

Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:

- *NT* – The birth of John the Baptist and his father Zechariah's reaction are unique to the gospel of Luke. (Lk 1:57-80) One can imagine Luke's investigation leading him to this side story. Why do you think this account is included in the Gospel of Luke? Why is this important? – *Mar 15*
- *NT* – Luke provides the only recorded scene of Jesus' early childhood. Scholars believe that he must have interviewed Mary as he investigated Jesus' life. (Lk 2:41-52) What do you notice about Jesus as a child? How does this story affect your faith in Jesus as the son of God? – *Mar 17*

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *NT* – Luke records a foreshadowing of God's plan in Jesus through a man named Simeon and a prophetess named Anna. (Lk 2:21-40) Read this story and discuss some of the things that were said of the infant Jesus. What do you imagine was going through the minds of Mary and Joseph when they heard these reactions? What thoughts come to your mind when you hear the words of Simeon and Anna? Discuss the significance of these passages as they relate to apologetics (defending the Christian faith to nonbelievers). – *Mar 16-17*
- 2) *NT* – Luke records Peter's (Simon) meeting Jesus after a long night of fishing. (Lk 5:1-11) Jesus instructs Peter and his crew to go out again and to let down their nets. He somewhat reluctantly does what Jesus asks. Upon doing so they make a miraculous catch of fish. Then Peter responds with words that are seemingly out of place, he says: "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" If you were Peter, knowing only what he knew of Jesus at this moment, how do you think you would have responded? Why do you think Peter responded in this way? Would you expect Jesus to respond the way he did to Peter? What does this dialogue show us about Jesus and how we might relate to him? – *Mar 21*

Summary: Numbers reading

Balak, king of the Moabites, summons Balaam to curse the Israelites yet his plans are thwarted. The Israelites falter in their faithfulness to YHWH. Moses commissions Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. The Israelites defeat the Midianites.

[Numbers Extra Credit]

Zealous for God... In an episode of blatant disregard for God, some of the Israelites turn to worship another God. Phinehas, priest and grandson of Aaron acts in a dramatic way against this behavior. Read Numbers chapter 25 together. What was God's reaction to the behavior of the Israelites? to Phinehas? What does the passage indicate about why God reacted this way? How do your observations from this passage change or confirm the way you think about your own behaviors in life. – *Mar 16*

Journal the Psalms this week:

What causes you to praise God? What is it that so moves you that you must proclaim his glory? Spend some time reading Psalm 63. Note the Psalmist's words in verse 3. Journal about how easy or difficult it is for these words to be spoken as your own. Ask God to help you see more clearly his love as being better than life. – *Mar 20*

A Lenten Sermon-related Question

Reading Schedule:

Num = Numbers / Lk = Luke / Ps = Psalms / Pr = Proverbs



Mar 15 – Num 22:21-23:30 / Lk 1:57-80 / Ps 58:1-11 / Pr 11:12-13
Mar 16 – Num 24:1-25:18 / Lk 2:1-35 / Ps 59:1-17 / Pr 11:14
Mar 17 – Num 26:1-51 / Lk 2:36-52 / Ps 60:1-12 / Pr 11:15
Mar 18 – Num 26:52-28:15 / Lk 3:1-22 / Ps 61:1-8 / Pr 11:16-17
Mar 19 – Num 28:16-29:40 / Lk 3:23-38 / Ps 62:1-12 / Pr 11:18-19
Mar 20 – Num 30:1-31:54 / Lk 4:1-30 / Ps 63:1-11 / Pr 11:20-21
Mar 21 – Num 32:1-33:39 / Lk 4:31-5:11 / Ps 64:1-10 / Pr 11:22