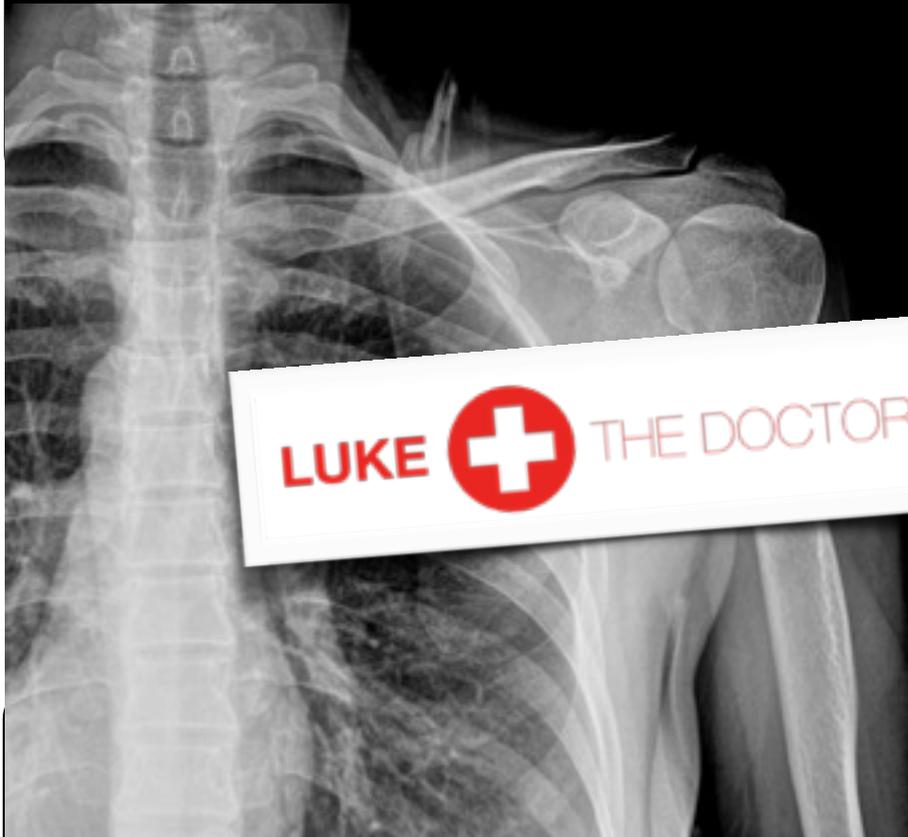


Study Guide, Term 4/2016

Luke's Gospel



Grace Christian Church Buderim
October - December 2016

“And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.””

(Luke 5:31–32 ESV)

**GROW
TOGETHER
IN JESUS**
FOR GOD'S GLORY



Grace Community Groups

Each week across the Sunshine Coast, small groups from Grace Christian Church meet to

- study the Bible,
- pray together,
- worship God,
- encourage each other,
- care for one-another,
- grow together as followers of Jesus,
- laugh, cry, discuss life's big questions,
- and build lasting friendships!

If you're not part of a group yet, why not? It might take courage to join a group, or it might take a bit of personal rescheduling, but we promise that you won't regret it!



Area/Group Focus	Meeting time	Contact	Phone
Bli Bli	Sunday, 2.00pm	John Baird	(07) 5448 4040
Buderim	Monday, 7.00pm	Colin Weston	(07) 5476 9648
Buderim/Sippy Downs	Thursday, 7.00pm	Clint Lombard	0478 578 152
Kawana/Wurtulla	Monday (fortnightly), 7.00pm	Tim Richards	(07) 5438 2201
Ladies	Thursday, 10.00am	Alison Sheldon	(07) 5477 1895
Little Mountain	Wednesday, 7.15pm	Roger Anderson	(07) 5491 9442
Woombye	Tuesday, 7.00pm	Cameron Blue	(07) 5442 3103
Woombye	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7.00pm	Des Morris	(07) 5476 3892
Young Mums	Tuesday, 10:30am	Jean Bowen-Jones	0402 746 533

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Introduction to the Study Guide

Welcome!

This term we're excited to be studying parts of the gospel of Luke together. Through this series of sermons and studies, we're going to look at the special concern Jesus had, as part of his kingdom ministry, for the oppressed, the outcast and the vulnerable.

We'll see Jesus healing diseases, casting out demons, raising the dead, caring about those who had made poor life choices, loving the unloveable and proclaiming to *them* God's good news.

The challenge for us will be to see what Jesus required of us - to imitate his love for those who are unable to give us anything in return, and to love them with the best gift of all, the gospel of restoration to our Creator through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

American pastor John Piper once summarised our Christian call like this:

“We care about all suffering now, especially eternal suffering later.” |

Introduction to Luke

The gospel of Luke was written by a man named Luke, who was also the author of the book of Acts. Both books were written for a man named 'Theophilus'.

“It seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.” (Luke 1:3–4 ESV)

“In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.” (Acts 1:1–2 ESV)



Luke himself, while not an apostle like Matthew or John, appears to have been a companion of Paul at the beginning of his ministry in Macedonia (Acts 16:10). Paul calls him “Luke, the beloved physician” in Colossians 4:14, indicating that he was probably a educated medical doctor. This idea is supported not just by his careful and skilled use of language, but also in his Jesus contact with those who were suffering physically.

Luke also seems to have remained with Paul when Paul was in prison (Philemon 24) and remained with Paul even when everyone else had deserted him (2 Timothy 4:11)

The Gospel of Luke

Luke's reason for writing his gospel is stated from the opening paragraph. He wants Theophilus (apparently a person of rank in Roman society who became a Christian), to *"have certainty concerning the things you have been taught."* (Luke 1:4) Of course, we can derive the same benefit from Luke's work, and in it we can also find certainty about what we know about Jesus.

To achieve this, he has *"followed all things closely"* for an extended period of time, for the purpose of writing an *"orderly account"* of the life and teaching of Jesus. He probably did this in the late 50's or early 60's A.D. about thirty years after Jesus death, resurrection and ascension. He also researched the testimony of eye-witnesses (Luke 1:2) who had known Jesus and seen him, and researched other written records of Jesus life and ministry, perhaps using the Gospel of Mark as reference (Luke 1:1). About 35% of what Luke records is unique to his writings.



Papyrus of Luke's gospel, c. 3rd Century AD

One of the clearest ideas in Luke's gospel is that the good news of Jesus Christ is a gospel for all people, from the highest to the lowest, the richest to the poorest, from the most pious to the most pagan. There's nothing exclusive about the gospel, except that it is for those who place their faith only in the Lord Jesus Christ, God's promised king.

The main take-away application from Luke's gospel for us should therefore look something like this:

Certainty about Jesus should give us confidence in his gospel, so that in love we're compelled to tell everyone the good news.

- Clint Lombard

How to use this study guide

Each weekly study in this guide is divided into two major sections:

Sermon

Sermon Notes

The first section of each study is based around the Sunday sermon. There is a section for you to write notes during the sermon. You might want to write down

- The major points of the message
- Things that interested you
- Important verses and other verse references

This will help you follow what is being taught, but it will also help you remember what you learnt when you look over your notes later.

The Big Idea

This block is where you can write the one Big Idea of the message. Every message should have one simple, clear '**Big Idea**' which you can take away.

Questions

It's normal to go away from a Bible message still having questions. This section is for you to write down those things, so that you can try to find out later, maybe by asking the pastor or your group leader, or discussing it with your group.

Group Bible Study

You can do these studies in your own, but to get the most out of them, you should try and attend a weekly group Bible study - a Grace Community Group. The studies in this guide are designed using an easy framework called '**COMA**':

Context: These questions help you understand where the text fits into the big picture. It's about asking, "What's been happening up to this point?"

Observation: These questions help you to orientate yourself in the text by looking at what it says. It's about asking, "What ideas come up in the text?" and "What surprises are there?"

Meaning: These questions help you try to uncover what the author means. It's about asking, "What does this section tell me about God, about Jesus, and about myself?"

Application: These questions help you to work out how to respond to the Bible's message. It's about asking, "How does this passage challenge or confirm my understanding?", "Is there something in my life that needs to change?", or "What does this passage teach me about being a follower of Jesus?"

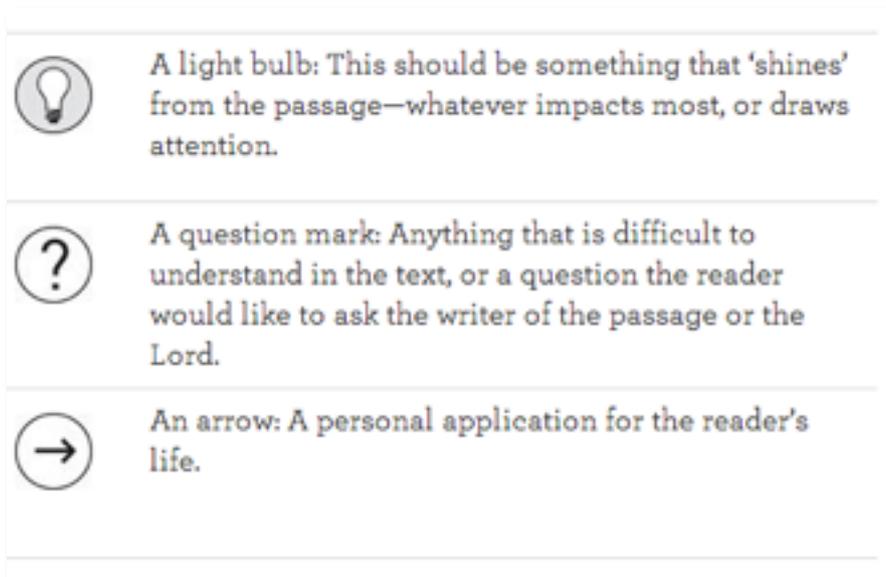
Prayer Points Finally, there is a section to write prayer points. This way you can remember to pray for each other during and after the group meeting, and also keep track of prayers answered. Prayer and praying for each other is a very important part of Christians meeting together.

Group Study Alternative: The Swedish Method

The Swedish Method is a simple Bible study method you can use to get to the heart of the text in a group setting. If you're short on time, or want to try something different, give it a go. You could also ask people to do the first section at home and then do Section 2 as a group.

Section 1:

After praying, read the text together, then allow ten minutes or so for people to answer these three questions on their own:



The graphic box contains three rows, each with an icon on the left and a text description on the right:

-  **A light bulb:** This should be something that 'shines' from the passage—whatever impacts most, or draws attention.
-  **A question mark:** Anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question the reader would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord.
-  **An arrow:** A personal application for the reader's life.

Section 2:

The next section involves three rounds of group discussion:

- In the first round, get each reader to share one of their **'light bulbs'** with the group. Spend some time discussing these, if your group is keen; it's always interesting to discover what has impacted different members.
- In the second round, ask them to share one of their **questions** raised by the passage. Often it is best to invite the person who raises the question to propose an approach to answering it, and generally encourage that person towards further investigation. Alternatively, any member of the group can respond to the question, provided the answer appears in the passage under consideration or in a previous section of the book that your group has already covered.
- In the third round, ask each person in your group to share one of their **applications** as it applies to their own life. Then, to conclude, **pray**: Invite people to lead in prayer as they please; no one should feel pressured to pray. Invite a suitable person to close the time of prayer.

23 October 2016

1. Jesus' Good News

Luke 4:14-30

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

(take these questions to your home group and try to find some answers)

Group Bible Study - Week 1

 Read Luke 4:14-30

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

30 October 2016

2. Finding the Right Balance

Luke 4:15-44

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

Group Bible Study - Week 2

 Read Luke 4:15-44.

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

6 November 2016

3. The Sick and the Sellouts

Luke 5:12-32

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

Group Bible Study - Week 3

 Read Luke 5:12-32

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

13 November 2016

4. Blessings for the Poor

Luke 6:17-36

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

Group Bible Study - Week 4

 Read Luke 6:17-36

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

20 November 2016

5. The Outsiders and the Vulnerable

Luke 7:1-23

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

Group Bible Study - Week 5

 Read Luke 7:1-23.

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

27 November 2016

6. The Hopeless and the Helpless

Luke 7:36 - 8:3

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

Group Bible Study - Week 6

 Luke 7:36 - 8:3.

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

4 December 2016

7. The Hungry... and the Cross

Luke 9:7-27

Sermon Notes

What is the Big Idea?

What questions do I still have?

Group Bible Study - Week 6

 Read Luke 9:7-27.

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?

2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?

6. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?

7. What surprises are there?

Meaning

8. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?

9. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?

10. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?

11. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

12. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?

13. Is there some attitude you need to change?

14. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Prayer Points:

