A STUDY GUIDE/REFLECTION QUESTIONS

THE STORY OF JESUS AS TOLD BY LUKE



“He said, ‘That’s what I mean: Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of. Play it safe and end up holding the bag.”

Luke 19:26 (MSG)


RISK
ALL
TO
BE ALL

The Bible tells us what God is like and offers us wisdom. You might not understand everything you read in the Bible, but don't let that discourage you.

#1 Remember that the Bible is God's Word

Whenever you pick up the Bible, remember that it is God's voice speaking directly into your life. Acknowledge this truth, and thank God that He speaks to you through His Word.

#2 Expect God to move when you read

Be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit in your heart as you read the Bible.

#3 Pray as you read

Take a moment when you sit down to read it to pray that God will minister to your spirit as you read.

#4 Read with your heart open

Open up your heart to what God is telling you through His Word, and you can discover the riches of His love and His will for you.

#5 Understand the context

It is very easy to take a single verse out of context, and give it a meaning that is far from what is actually intended.

Meeting God through the Bible

There are many ways to meditate upon and study Scripture, but we have suggested a Head–Heart–Hands format to use in reflecting
on the daily Scripture passages.

Preparing to Listen:

It is important that we prepare ourselves to encounter God in His Word. Find a place free from distraction where you can be alone with God. Spend a few seconds in silence before you begin.

HEAD (Think)

As we come to each time of reading we ask the question: What do I learn in this passage? Consider: What does the passage teach about God? The Human Condition? Our Purpose? How to live (or not live)? What are the promises made, commands given, or warnings to be heeded? As you read, be alert for words or phrases that grab your attention and talk with God about why He highlighted them to you.

HEART (Feel)

Read through the passage slowly and pay attention to your affective response to what you read. What are your emotional responses to the various phrases you read? Do you feel encouraged? Convicted? Guilty? Sorrowful? Anxious? Comforted? Confused? As you acknowledge your emotional responses,

talk with God about WHY you feel this way. Why did you feel encouraged by the passage? Why did you feel anxious in response to the words? Allow God to use your emotions to reveal the issues in your heart in a deeper way.

HANDS (Act)

Lastly, we read again, and consider the question: What might I do in response to the passage? More importantly, what is God inviting you to do in response? Is there an action to take? A truth to meditate on? A confession to make? If how we are living is not in alignment with what we read, we ask for God's help as we begin the process of change.



Overview of the Gospel of Luke

Gospel means good news, in this case the good news of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as recorded by Luke.

Luke was a well educated doctor and takes on the job as an investigative reporter. Hired by a man named Theophilus, Luke travels the landscape interviewing those who had firsthand encounters with Jesus. Luke primary job was to validate and confirm the accounts of Jesus were true.

Luke's grand theme throughout his gospel is the love of God for his people as shown in the life of Jesus.

Luke helps us gain a proper understanding of who God is, who we are, and who Jesus Christ is in God's perfect plan for our lives

Luke's Gospel describes a world turned upside down. Sinners are saved while religious leaders are exposed as frauds. "Outsiders" embrace Jesus while "insiders" reject him.

Chapter 1
PREPARATION FOR THE ARRIVAL OF JESUS

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What areas of your life have you been waiting on God to help with?
2. Is there an area of your life that you feel like it is impossible for God to touch?
3. What do you think it means to be "favored" by God?
4. If God gave you a special assignment that might cost you something, how would you respond?



Chapter 2
BIRTH OF JESUS AND HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Who are the outcasts and marginalized in your world?
2. What does peace look like for you?
3. What things can you ponder or treasure out of gratitude?
4. What areas of your life do you need to grow in wisdom? How?

Jesus was God spelling himself out in language humanity could understand.

- S.D. Gordon

Chapter 3
BAPTISM OF JESUS

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does the word "repentance" mean?
2. Are there areas of your life that you need to turn back to God?
3. Do you feel like God is pleased with your life? Why or why not?
4. What does baptism mean to you?



Chapter 4
JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What areas of temptation in your life do you struggle with the most?
2. What did Jesus mean by saying, "Man doesn't live by bread alone"?
3. What lies do you feel Satan is trying to deceive you with?
4. What does Jesus mean by being "Anointed by the Spirit"?
5. Everything Jesus did was through the power of the Spirit. What areas of your life do you need the Holy Spirit to empower?
6. Jesus was led by the Spirit. What does being led by the Spirit look like for you?

Not only do we not know God except through Jesus Christ; We do not even know ourselves except through Jesus Christ.

- Blaise Pascal

Chapter 5
JESUS FIRST DISCIPLES AND MIRACLES

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why would the disciples leave everything to follow Jesus?
2. What does faith mean to you?
3. Do you believe that Jesus still does miracles today?
4. What did Jesus mean by the phrase, “New Wine”?



Chapter 6
JESUS DESCRIBES A LIFE OF BLESSING

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Which of the "Blessed" phrases stood out to you the most? Why?
2. Who would you say are "enemies" in your life?
3. What does Jesus say to do with our enemies?
4. What foundation are you building your life on?
5. Are there any areas of your life that you are not building on God's Word?

Why do we expect to be better treated in this world than Jesus was?

-Leonard Ravenhill

Chapter 7
JESUS RESPONDS TO FAITH

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does faith mean to you?
2. Is there an area of your life that you need to have more faith?
3. Why was John considered the greatest man to live?
4. Who do you identify most with in this chapter?



Chapter 8
JESUS CALMS THE STORM

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of soil describes the condition of your heart?
2. What are the storms in your life?
3. What do you think Jesus wants you to know about him in your boat?
4. Do you believe Jesus can do supernatural miracles today?
5. Have you seen any miracles in your life?

God doesn't just give us grace; He gives us Jesus, the Lord of grace.

-Joni Eareckson Tada

Chapter 9
JESUS IS MORE THAN JUST A GOOD MAN

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What small things can you offer so Jesus can supernaturally multiply ?
2. Who do you say Jesus is to you?
3. Am I willing to risk my life for Jesus? What does losing my life for him mean?
4. Is there areas of my life where I have allowed the lies of the devil to influence me?



Chapter 10
JESUS AND COMPASSION

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does a "plentiful harvest" mean?
2. What did the disciples learn when they returned to Jesus ?
3. Who are the samaritans in your life?
4. If Jesus was to visit your home, would you be a Mary or Martha?Why?

I don't want the world to define God for me. I want the Holy Spirit to reveal God to me.

-A.W. Tozer

Chapter 11
JESUS TEACHES ON PRAYER AND INNER LIGHT

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does prayer look like for you?
2. What struggles do you have with praying?
3. What did Jesus mean by "the eye is the lamp of the body"?
4. Is there anything you are entertaining with your eyes that cause inner darkness?



Chapter 12
JESUS TALKS ABOUT WEALTH AND WORRY

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What was the issue with the rich man?
2. How does money, greed and possessions hurt us?
3. What areas of your life do you have a lot of worry?
4. What does Jesus say we are to do with our worry?
5. What does Jesus want us watching for?

Jesus took the tree of death so you could have the tree of life.

- Tim Keller

Chapter 13
JESUS EXPLAINS THE KINGDOM

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does Jesus mean when he talks about the "Kingdom of God"?
2. What does a small seed have to do with the Kingdom?
3. What did Jesus mean by the "Narrow Door"?
4. What does it mean to repent?
5. Why was Jesus so disappointed with the religious leaders?



Chapter 14
JESUS TALKS ABOUT THE COST OF FOLLOWING HIM

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why does Jesus talk so much about humility?
2. Is there an area of pride or self love that is negatively impacting your life?
3. What does it mean to carry our cross for Christ?
4. Is there something in your life that Jesus is asking you to give up?

Without the Spirit of God, we can do nothing. We are as ships without wind. We are useless.

-Charles Spurgeon

Chapter 15
JESUS TALKING ABOUT LOST AND FOUND

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever lost something and then found it? How did you feel?
2. Who are the lost that Jesus is referring to?
3. How important are the lost to Jesus?
4. What impacted you the most about the lost son?
5. How important should it be for us to help the lost get found?



Chapter 16
JESUS TEACHING ABOUT MONEY

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does Jesus say about a person who is trustworthy?
2. What are the dangers in having a wrong view of money?
3. How is money a negative master in your life?
4. What are ways you can start putting money in the right perspective?

God doesn't just give us grace; He gives us Jesus, the Lord of grace.

-Joni Eareckson Tada

Chapter 17
JESUS TALKS ABOUT FAITH FORGIVENESS AND MIRACLES

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Is there anyone in your life that you need to forgive?
2. If faith is a seed how are you watering it in your life?
3. How did faith impact the healing of the lepers?
4. What will the return of Jesus look like??



Chapter 18
JESUS TALKS ABOUT HUMILITY AND JUSTICE

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does justice mean to you?
2. Is there an area of justice you have been seeking in your life?
3. What does Jesus promise the humble over the proud?
4. What are the trappings of wealth?
5. Why is the posture of a child so important with God?

Jesus is not one of many ways to approach God, nor is He the best of several ways; He is the only way.

- A. W. Tozer

Chapter 19
JESUS WITH SINNERS

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Jesus prefer to hang out with sinners instead of the religious?
2. Who are the untouchables in my life?
3. What does the word "stewardship" mean?
4. Why did Jesus care so much about the corruption at the temple?
5. What are ways people are being exploited today? What can you do to help turn those tables?



Chapter 20
JESUS TALKS ABOUT AUTHORITY

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean to be in authority?
2. Is Jesus the ultimate authority in your life or somethings else?
3. If Jesus is in charge of my life, will it cost me something?
4. Is there an area of your life that you have not given Jesus full control?

“Faith is a living and unshakable confidence. A belief in God so assured that a man would die a thousand deaths for its sake.”

- Martin Luther

Chapter 21
JESUS DESCRIBES GENEROSITY AND FUTURE

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How is true generosity and sacrifice connected?
2. What does sacrifice look like in your life?
3. How can you prepare yourself spiritually for enduring hardships?
4. When Jesus warns about the future what does he say we should do?



Chapter 22
JESUS BETRAYAL,LAST DINNER AND ARREST

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What was the reason fro Jesus betrayal?
2. How does Jesus define greatness?
3. What do we learn about the prayer of Jesus in the garden?
4. What caused Peter to betray Jesus?
5. Do I sometimes feel ashamed to be associated with Jesus?Why?

“Faith expects from God what is beyond all expectation.”

- Andrew Murray

Chapter 23
JESUS TRIAL AND CRUCIFIXION

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why was a political leader like Herod so threatened by Jesus?
2. Why did the people turn their backs on Jesus?
3. What was so powerful about the forgiveness of Jesus on the cross?
4. What does the cross and death of Jesus mean to me?
5. What does the promise Jesus made to the thief on the cross tell us about the goodness of God?


רחוב הגיא
طريق الواد
VIA DOLOROSA

Chapter 24
JESUS OVERCOMING DEATH AND STARTING A MOVEMENT

HEAD (*Think*)

HEART (*Feel*)

HANDS (*Act*)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How would you feel after seeing Jesus die but now seeing him alive?
2. If Jesus can overcome sin and death, what does that mean for you?
3. Before Jesus sent them to carry out his legacy he said to wait for the power of the Spirit? Why would he say that?
4. What are you going to do to propel the message and story of Jesus in your life?

“Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light.”

- Helen Keller

KEEP THE MOMENTUM

This isn't the end to the story of Jesus. This was the beginning of a global movement that would echo into eternity.

The Christian life Jesus offers us is the most exciting life we can live here on earth. We are called to do things that are impossible for us to accomplish on our own. God's plans for you and me is to be a people who experience the fullness of Jesus' life, personal breakthroughs, the supernatural power and presence of the Holy Spirit, and live out our eternal destiny.

Saying yes to Jesus is the first step of faith and is our reasonable response to Jesus radical love. If you haven't taken that first step of faith it's as simple as praying this prayer. You can pray by yourself, using your own words. There is no special formula. Just pray from your heart to God, and he will save you. If you feel lost and don't know what to pray, here's a salvation prayer that you can follow:

"Lord Jesus, I ask your forgiveness for my sins. Thank you for dying on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. I believe you died for my sins and I receive you as my Savior and Lord. I invite you into my life and I want to follow you as my Savior and Lord."

We're excited that you have made a commitment to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and serve Him as your Lord. This is the most important day of your life! Life isn't perfect now that I'm following Jesus, but it is purposeful. The more we get to know God, the more we see the purpose of our own lives.

So whats next?

1 First, you need to know that you have been given a new life! The Bible says, “Those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun. 2Corinthians 5:17

2 Second, Meet the Holy Spirit, who can do it all. He is the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit is a person. He is God. He is the third person of the Holy Trinity. He comes to dwell inside every person who receives the Lord Jesus Christ as his or her Savior. The Holy Spirit pours God’s love into our hearts and moves us from death to life. Saying yes to Jesus is the most supernatural thing we will ever experience. When a person puts their faith in Christ for salvation, it is the Spirit who opens the heart and imparts divine life. The Bible says, "And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.” Romans 8:11. He has limitless power and wisdom, yet He willingly comes to live inside any person who believes in Jesus Christ. And that means we have access to His amazing power. The Holy Spirit is a beautiful and powerful part of who God is. We need Him in our life as a conduit to become who God created us to be, and through His power we have aid in all situations. Without Him, we are powerless.

3 Third, When Jesus talked with His disciples about experiencing life to the fullest He challenged them to have and “ALL IN” mentality. Having an “ALL IN” mindset and attitude is about living a life centered around Jesus where we decrease so that He can increase in us. Jesus said it best in Luke 19:26 “He said, ‘That’s what I mean: Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of. Play it safe and end up holding the bag.” Living as “ALL IN” requires a “Risk ALL” attitude. Risk requires vulnerability and the willingness to be known by others. Risk requires sacrifice and obedience to Gods voice and direction. It means to Risk all that I have to Be all that He wants me to be. This is the VP Creed!

BE A CATALYST

Jesus was the ultimate example at creating a community for a small group of ordinary individuals to become world changers. Jesus multiplied his influence and impact as he declared that these ordinary individuals would, “Do greater things” than himself.

Jesus imagined that once you believe you become and agent of change in another life. Its like paying it forward at the coffee shop. When you become a follower of Jesus you pay it forward by helping others grow in their faith as well. The Bible calls this making disciples. Not only do you put time an energy into the growth of another person but the process of making a disciple increases your own growth and sense of purpose.

You don't have to be a Bible scholar or expert at following Jesus in order to be a catalyst for someone else. You simply just have to have a desire to see others experience God in their own journey. The best way to be a catalyst is through the relationships you already have. This is why we like to call making disciples “friendship with purpose”. Friendships are the best context to be a catalyst in someone's life. But instead of having friendships that just center around common interests and activities, friendship with purpose centers around Jesus and how he wants to use our relationships to encourage transformation and growth in each other.

To be a catalyst for someone else starts with an intentional pursuit. A pursuit that focuses on going vertical together. The pursuit of others involves a community where others are INVITED, INVESTED, and INSPIRED to achieve the height of their growth, potential and destiny!

