



SERMON NOTES

Week 3 March 3, 2024

"Lifetime Invitation"

Luke 1:1–4; 4:14–15, 40, 43; 5:1–6, 8, 10–11;
1 Peter 2:23–24



I. Introduction/Review

- A. Christianity specifically rises and falls on the _____ of a single individual, Jesus of Nazareth.
- B. The question to ask if you are deciding whether to take Christianity seriously or not: Is Matthew, Mark, Luke or John a _____ account of actual events?
- C. Luke wanted to assure us that our faith was anchored to an _____, the resurrection of Jesus.

II. The Ministry of Jesus Begins

- A. When Jesus launched his ministry, people _____ him, even though they were nothing like Him.
- B. In the first century, illness and disease was associated with sin. So the healing miracles Jesus performed showed people the power he had over _____.
- C. If the version of Christianity you are currently a part of does not strike you as _____ news, it may not be the original version.

III. Going Fishing with Jesus

- A. Jesus asked Peter to do something Peter could easily do. It was a 'baby _____ me' step.
- B. Peter knew just enough to take the _____ step. But he did not know what hung in the balance of that next step.
- C. The point of Jesus' ministry is not what he taught, it is who He claimed to be. He was God in a body, so he had authority over _____.

IV. Your "Peter Moment"

- D. Peter says Jesus is worth following, not because of what He will do for you, because of what He has _____ for you.
- E. When you finally say "_____" to your Heavenly Father and your faith intersects with God's faithfulness, something's going to happen on the inside of you.
- F. Whatever your next step is, your response should be like Peter's: 'but because _____ say so.'

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *March 4-9, 2024*

INTRODUCTION

After Jesus was done preaching from Peter's boat, he asked Peter to go fishing. Since Peter was a fisherman by trade, he knew this invitation to fish was pointless. In first century Palestine, you could not catch fish during the heat of the day because the fish would not come close to the surface of the lake. However, Peter had enough faith in Jesus to take that small leap of faith and the rest, as they say, is history. So what does this story mean for us?

Monday: Luke 9:10-36

Facing a large, hungry crowd, the disciples were prudent: "Send the crowd away so that they can go to the nearby villages and countryside and find lodging and food" (9:12, CEB) Jesus jolted them with, "YOU give them something to eat" (9:13, NIV). Does Jesus still call us to be a means for his power to help others? Why do we need to rely on Jesus' power, not our own, to achieve God's purposes?

Tuesday: Luke 9:37-62

Luke 9:57-62 (like Luke 8:19-21) may trouble you. Jesus honored family loyalty and love (e.g. Luke 2:51-52, John 19:26-27). He did say that the kingdom is "even more important than the claims of family, which are themselves the most important normal claims a person can have." * Has any loyalty (e.g., family, company, school, etc.) ever tugged you to ignore your loyalty to God? If that happens, which loyalty will you choose?

Wednesday: Luke 10:1-24

Jesus talked with the seventy-two (or "seventy" - ancient copies of Luke differ on this minor point) after their mission ended. Their outward, visible success thrilled them. Jesus re-directed their thoughts. In 10:20, how did he turn their eyes to the true basis for Christian assurance in the future, regardless of outward appearances?

Thursday: Luke 11:14-36

Sometimes our efforts to "clean up our life" by sheer human determination and willpower don't work. It does little good to just clear out the bad, with nothing in its place. What are some positive ways you have learned to allow God to fill your soul with divine purpose and love?

Friday: Luke 11:37 – 12:7

With powerful people plotting against him, we might think Jesus would be afraid. But he defined "security" very differently than humans typically do. Scholar N. T. Wright summed up his teaching: "One should recognize who the ultimate enemy is. In this picture, God is not the enemy to be feared; he is one to trust, the one who values his children more highly than a whole flock of sparrows, who has the very hairs of our head all numbered." * How does Jesus' teaching challenge our culture's messages about how to attain true security?

MOVING FORWARD

When it comes to our faith journeys, we all have a next step. Maybe it's to worship regularly, join a small group, serve, share your faith, or invest your resources in the Kingdom of God. Whatever your next step is, take it. You don't know what hangs in the balance.

*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) identity, B) reliable, C) event. IIA) liked, B) sin, C) good.
IIIA) trust, B) next, C) nature. IVA) done, B) yes, C) you.*

* N. T. Wright, *Luke for Everyone*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004, pp. 149-150.