

## Daily reading List for Gospel of Luke in Lent



# The Gospel of Luke

*"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." - Luke 19:10*

The book of Luke is part of a two volume history that concludes with the Acts of the Apostle's. The same author wrote both and they were meant to be read back to back. (We will read Acts following Easter). The author of these books was a historian which gives us an understanding of early Christianity. He also appears to have traveled with Paul some in the last half of Acts. Col. 4:14 mentions Luke as a doctor and friend of Paul's. The gospel of Luke emphasizes the need to care for others, particularly the sick, widowed and poor. Watch for an emphasis on including the Gentiles in ministry as well.

*LENT IS A TIME OF PREPARATION FOR THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS. IT IS A TIME TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS, OUR UNDERSTANDING AND THE HOPE THAT THE RESURRECTED LORD BRINGS TO EACH OF US. SET ASIDE TIME TO READ SCRIPTURE DAILY. PRAY BEFORE YOUR READING AND REFLECTION TIME:*

*JESUS THIS IS YOUR TIME. SPEAK TO ME. MELT ME, MOLD ME, FORM ME TO BE THE FOLLOWER YOU CALL ME TO BE.  
AMEN*

## **MARCH**

**2 – Ash Weds:** Psalm 51:1-17 – What word or phrase in this psalm speaks to you today? On this Ash Weds focus in particular on verses 10 and 17. How can they set the tone for you as you travel through Lent to the cross?

**3 - Chapter 1:** How does reading the conception of Jesus, along with the story of Elizabeth and Zachariah take on new meaning for you in Light of the cross? Do you see a theme of resurrection in any of these people? How do you see the theme of resurrection in your life?

**4 – Chapter 2:1-21:** How does the announcement of Jesus’ birth first to the shepherds, set the tone for the book of Luke? The shepherds were not looked upon favorably by society. What is the message of Jesus’ announcement to the shepherds say to you?

**5 – Chapter 2:22-52:** Jesus’ parents lost him. Have you ever taken Jesus for granted and lost him? What do you need to do to seek him, keep him closer? What does it feel like to find him again?

**Sunday 6th – Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16:** What word or phrase speaks to you today? How does God hold you fast in midst of trouble?

**7 – Chapter 3:** People asked John the Baptist – ‘what should we do?’ What does that question for you mean? Jesus’ genealogy is full of imperfect people. What does that mean to you?

**8 - Chapter 4:1-30:** How do the Temptations Jesus faced demonstrate his humanity? His divinity? Is it comforting or disturbing to know Jesus went through these temptations? When Jesus went to the synagogue in Nazareth we are told he was filled with the Holy Spirit to bring the good news to who? (he is reading from Isaiah 61:1-2 ; 58:6) Why did people get so angry? How would you have reacted? Do you react this way today?

**9 – Chapter 4:31-44:** Do Jesus’ words have authority in your life? There are different kinds of healing we all need. What do you need to ask Jesus to heal in you right now? Stop and place your burdens and needs at Jesus’ feet. Picture him touching you with his healing touch.

**10 – Chapter 5:** Jesus called his first disciples. How did they react? What difference did the miracle of the fish make in their decision? How do you think they would have reacted if they could see the whole picture of who Jesus was and what their life and death would be like? What does this chapter say about how different God’s kingdom will be? Especially when he called Levi a tax collector (despised people) and had a party with his friends?

**11 – Chapter 6:1-26:** What does your Sabbath look like? Is it different in some way from other days? Which of the Beatitudes is hardest for you to understand or live?

**12 – Chapter 6:27-49:** Here are several parables Jesus shared to guide our living. Which do you struggle with right now – loving enemies, judging others, being a witness to goodness of God, building a solid foundation? What is Jesus saying to you?

**Sunday 13th** – rest and reflect on this week’s readings.

**14 - Chapter 7:1-35:** Compare the role of faith in today's reading. Do we recognize the authority of Jesus as the centurion did? Verse 9 is one of the few places in the Gospels where Jesus is surprised! Usually it's others who are surprised by Jesus. How did the lack of faith by people in healing the widow's son, compare to the compassion of Jesus? Where is your faith on the spectrum of these two stories?

**15 – Chapter 7:36-50:** Pharisees struggled with defending their faith (head) and knowing Jesus through his promises and compassion (heart). How does your faith struggle between head and heart?

**16 – Chapter 8:1-21:** The gospel of Luke demonstrates support of women in Jesus' ministry. Verses 1-3 only found in Luke gives a list of women who accompanied Jesus like the male disciples. Some of these woman were the first to discover the empty tomb. (24:10). Which type of soil describes your faith struggles right now?

**17 – Chapter 8:22-56:** Picture Jesus standing in the middle of whatever storm you are going through right now rebuking it. Feel the peace. The healing of both Legion, Jairus daughter and the bleeding woman recognizes Jesus' compassion toward the marginalized in society – mental illness, youth and women's illness. How is society doing today? How is the church?

**18 – Chapter 9:1-27:** The disciples witness an amazing miracle in the Feeding of 5,000. Jesus is also attempting to tell them of his death and resurrection. Who do YOU say he is?

**19: Chapter 9:28-62:** Which of the events in this chapter would get your attention? Jesus warns us all that being his follower is not easy. In what way is being a Jesus' follower difficult for you? What resistance do you find to your Christianity?

**Sunday 20th – Psalm 63:1-7** – Find Sabbath rest today.

**21 -Chapter 10:1-24:** If you are one of the 72, what would be the hardest for you? What would bring joy?

**22 – Chapter 10:25-42:** What does it mean for you to love your neighbor as yourself? Who are you more like, Mary or Martha? What aspects of how you approach faithful living do you need to learn from each?

**23 – Chapter 11:1-28:** Pray the Lord's Prayer. How do you understand persistent prayer? How does prayer connect to verses 33-36? Jesus meets opposition and people question where his authority comes from. How does verse 17 apply today?

**24 – Chapter 11:29-54:** The sign of Jonah is the three days and nights in the fish, a story they are familiar with. Jonah was sent to warn Ninevites of their evil ways yet he ran from God. But Jonah returned to God and was used to guide them. Jesus is helping people understand that he is more than Jonah – verse 32b – and now something greater than Jonah is here.

**25 – Chapter 12:1-21** – This chapter challenges us to beware of many things we may struggle with in daily living – hypocrisy, denying Jesus, materialism, worry, being faithful. Which of these sections did you feel uncomfortable with? Which caused you to say ouch? Self-examination is important in understanding how we relate to the life Jesus calls us to live.

**26 – Chapter 12:22-59:** See above.

**Sunday 27th** – Rest and reflect on the one aspect of this week’s reading that has challenged you the most .

**28 – Chapter 13:1-21** – The parable of the Barren Fig Tree is always puzzling to readers. What is your understanding? What does it say about the role of repentance as followers of Jesus? Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath knowing it will cause problems for him. What is he trying to say about double standards that faith communities practice?

**29 – Chapter 13:22-35:** Which parable reflects your faith – mustard seeds, Yeast or narrow doors?

**30 – Chapter 14:1-24:** Think of the hospitality Jesus calls us to practice for others. What does this chapter say about hospitality? About the Kingdom of God?

**31 – Chapter 14:25-35:** What is the cost of being a disciple of Jesus? How does our loyalty to him conflict with our life at times?

## **APRIL**

**1 – Chapter 15:1-10:** What does it mean to be lost? Are we ever really lost to Jesus? Think of a time you felt lost. Were you lost or had you lost Jesus?

**2 – Chapter 15:11-32:** Who or what in this chapter reflects you right now? Which character are you in the Prodigal Son? What is the hope of this parable for you?

**Sunday 3rd – Psalm 32:** Rest and reflect

**4 – Chapter 16** - The theme is money. How are you faithful to Jesus through your financial practices? How are we to assess what is important? In what way does money trap us? How do we care for others through financial practices?

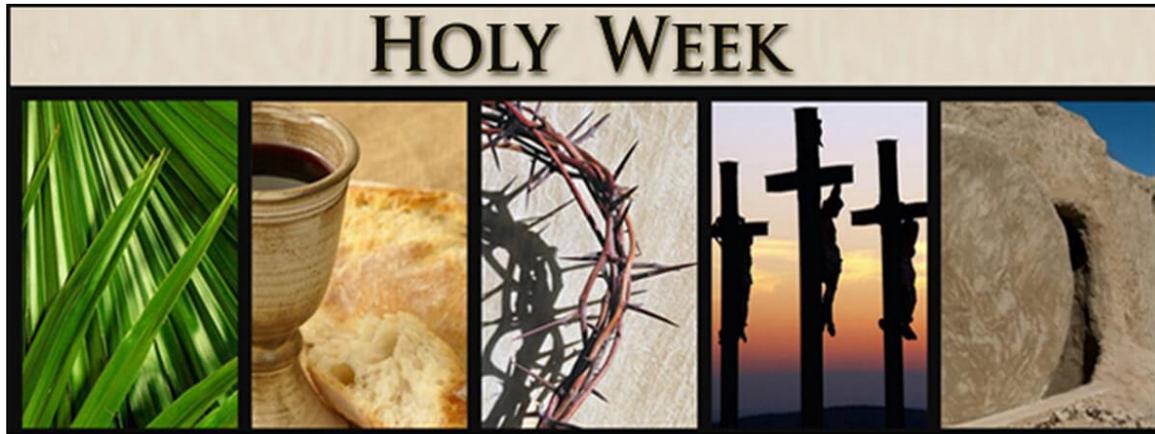
**5 – Chapter 17** – How are you a stumbling block to someone? What do you do or not do that impedes another to know Christ? How are forgiveness and giving thanks part of the faith we are to live?

**6- Chapter 18** – The first two parables are different yet have a powerful message about justification by faith. How do you understand this? The blind beggar said I want to see again. What will it take for you to ‘see’ right now?

**7 – Chapter 19:1-27:** How would you have felt about yourself if you were Zacchaeus before you met Jesus? How would have felt after you met Jesus who wanted to come to your house? What has God entrusted you with to nurture and invest?

**8 – Chapter 19:28-48:** As you begin to prepare for Holy Week think about these events – Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem (before pending arrest), his weeping over Jerusalem and cleaning out the Temple. What do you need to do to get ready?

**9 – Chapter 20** – At the beginning Jesus is teaching in the Temple where his authority is questioned by the chief priest and elders. Were they more worried about what people would think with certain answers or finding the truth? Are we guilty of this as well? How was he preparing people for what was to come with the parable and questions about resurrection?



## ***HOLY WEEK***

**Palm Sunday** – Take a moment today to be quiet and celebrate Jesus coming into your life. Be grateful for Jesus.

**11 – Chapter 21:** Three different events are found in this chapter – Christian persecution (12-19), destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem (7-11, 20-24) and Jesus’ return (25-28). What is the relationship between the three and how are we to live anticipating his return? Jesus is trying to prepare his followers for his pending death and the fall of Jerusalem in 70AD. Where is the reassurance that they will be given wisdom and help as needed?

**12 - Chapter 22:1-38** – Are there times you have betrayed Jesus in your life? What does participating in communion mean to you?

**13 – Chapter 22:39-45:** How important was Jesus’ time in the Garden of Gethsemane? Imagine what that time would have been like for you? How difficult would it have been to stay focused? How important/difficult is prayer time for you in times of stress and anxiety? Thank you Jesus for this example for us.

**Maundy Thursday** –Chapter 22:47-71, 23:1-25: Read and focus on what you feel through these powerful images in scripture.

**Good Friday** – Chapter 23:26-49: – As you read this today don’t think about details as much as read with your emotions. What emotions jump out at you?

**Holy Saturday** – Luke 23:50-56: Today is day of reflection. What does it mean that Jesus is dead in the tomb for you? Feel the bleakness of a world – your world – without Jesus.

**EASTER** – Chapter 24 – How would you have reacted if Jesus appeared to you after his resurrection? What did he do to reassure people? What kind of reassurance would you need? What kind of reassurance do you need now to believe?