

INTRODUCTION

Overview

As a church, we have been going through the gospel of Luke for the last couple of years (and we will continue in the upcoming years). In chapter 9, Jesus challenged his disciples' views on his identity and mission, and what it truly meant to follow him. Jesus was the suffering Messiah, so his followers must follow his footsteps, deny themselves and take up his cross daily.

We will now look at chapter 10 and 11 where Jesus appointed and sent additional 72 people – just like he did the 12 apostles in chapter 9. Those appointed and sent by Jesus must see it as a privilege, because their names were written in heaven (10:20) and they got to see what 'many prophets and kings desired to see' (10:24). Jesus then taught his disciples and others, through his various encounters, the importance of leaning close to him and hearing and obeying the word of God.

How to use these studies

These studies have been written in the COMA (context, observation, meaning, application) method, which we have been using for quite some time. However, if you would like to mix it up, you are welcome to use different methods. These are included in the appendix and we have found them really helpful. Leaders should feel free to use a different method each week - whatever is most beneficial for your life group.

STUDY 1

LUKE 10:1-24

Context

Jesus had begun his final journey to Jerusalem, where his destiny was to die for his people. In the next chapters, he would also prepare his disciples for his departure and equipped them to continue his work in his absence.

In the previous chapter (9:1-6), Jesus had sent out his 12 disciples to proclaim the kingdom of God and heal. In chapter 10, Jesus sent out 72 others for a similar task.

Observation

1. Why did Jesus tell these disciples to go without many possessions and without much of an accommodation plan (verses 2-7)?
2. Why does the nearness of God's kingdom have such different implications for its hearers (verses 8-16)?

Meaning

3. Describe the impact of the disciples' mission. Why do earthly missions and ministries have such cosmic implications (17-20)?
4. How does this passage reveal Jesus' unique relationship to the Father and our sharing in that relationship (21-22)?

Application

5. Jesus said that the harvest was plentiful, but the labourers were few (verse 2). Is this a fair reflection of our world today, and why?
6. Through this passage, Jesus presented our mission as a profound blessing and privilege. How can we experience God's mission joyfully?

*Spend time praying to the Lord of the Harvest
to raise up more labourers for his harvest field.*

STUDY 2

LUKE 10:25-37

Context

As Jesus continued on his journey to Jerusalem, his focus was on equipping his disciples and preparing them for the demands of discipleship. In this passage, he was approached with what seemed like a pretty basic question. But from this, Jesus shared one of his most famous and profound parables.

During this time, there was mutual hostility between the Jews and the Samaritans that went back hundreds of years. So, it was a surprise when Jesus mentioned a Samaritan in his parable.

Observation

1. To answer the lawyer's seemingly innocuous question, wouldn't you expect Jesus to just respond with the gospel message? Why do you think Jesus discussed the Old Testament law (verses 26-28)?

Note: *Jesus' summary of the law probably came from the combination of Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18.*

2. To illustrate who the man's neighbour was (10:29), Jesus shared his well-known parable. Contrast the different characters.

Meaning

3. How does Jesus' parable reveal the fundamental nature of the Old Testament law?

Application

4. What does our profession to love God with all of our heart, soul, strength and mind actually look like in practice?

5. How can our church grow as a community that welcomes people from different ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds and age groups?

- What are we doing well?
- What could be improved?

6. As a church, how do we welcome people of different views and beliefs, while still holding firm to the truth?

STUDY 3

LUKE 10:38-42

Context

Women played a prominent role in Luke's gospel (8:1-3). As Jesus entered a village, he was welcomed by Mary and Martha into their house. This short passage contrasts two examples of devotion to Jesus.

Observation

1. Compare Mary's and Martha's approach to hospitality. Which one do you resonate with more, and why?

2. Why did Jesus say that Martha was anxious and troubled about many things, while Mary had chosen the good portion (41-42)?

Meaning

3. How does this passage reveal the relationship between doing and being?

STUDY 4

LUKE 11:1-13

Context

*“Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished,
one of his disciples came to him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray...”*

Jesus said, “This is how you should pray...”

(verses 1-2 New Living Translation)

Let's come together as Jesus' disciples – sitting attentively at his feet and listening to our Master teach how to pray.

Ice breaker

1. What is the one thing that dominates your prayer?

Observation

2. What stands out to you about the contents of Jesus' prayer (verses 1-4)?

3. What stands out to you about Jesus' illustrations about prayer?
 - a. verses 5-8
 - b. verses 9-10
 - c. verses 11-13

Meaning

4. Through these illustrations, what was Jesus teaching about attitudes towards prayer?
 - a. verses 5-8
 - b. verses 9-10
 - c. verses 11-13

Application

5. How might the contents of Jesus' prayer shape the contents of ours?

6. What does praying with bold persistence, confident expectation and trusting security look like in our prayer life?

7. What distracts you from or attracts you to a joyful Spirit-empowered prayer life?

Meaning

3. How does this passage reveal our dependence on God to overcome the powers of evil and sin?

Application

4. How do we discern the difference between God's work and demonic activity disguised as God's work?
5. Where might we be particularly vulnerable to the powers of evil in our lives?
6. Where do we see the 'finger of God' (verse 20) powerfully overcoming our evil and sinful tendencies in our lives?

STUDY 6

LUKE 11:27-36

Context

"I will believe in Jesus if I see _____"

Does this statement sound familiar to you? This is not new to our generation. More than 2,000 years ago, Jesus himself responded to a crowd with a similar attitude, which we will see in this passage.

Observation

1. Compare and contrast:
 - a. the Queen of Sheba's response towards Solomon (verses 31; 2 Chronicles 9:5-6)
 - b. the men of Nineveh's response towards Jonah (verse 32; Jonah 3:6-10)
 - c. this generation's response towards the Son of Man (verse 29)

2. Rephrase in your own words how the lamp's radiance in the darkness is analogous to the eye and the body.

Meaning

3. How was the 'sign of Jonah' that Jesus would give (Matthew 12:40) different from the sign that the crowds wanted to see from Jesus?

4. What might the 'healthy eye' be seeing that the 'bad eye' is failing to see?

Application

5. What 'signs' from God does our generation seek today? What should be our response?

6. How could our lives radiate the necessity and sufficiency of Jesus' death and resurrection?

APPENDIX: INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS

5 Rs Bible Study Method

Instructions

- Read the passage together aloud
- Read the passage again slowly by yourself
- Follow the [5 Rs](#)¹ inductive bible study method
- Share your observations as a group

1. **Retell** (in pairs)

Are there parts I find unclear or confusing as I retell the narrative?

2. **Reveal**

What is revealed about Jesus through words and actions?

3. **React**

How are different people responding to Jesus here?

4. **Reason**

What reason do I think Luke had for including these events?

5. **Respond**

How will I respond to what this passage reveals about Jesus?

¹ <https://uncover.org.au/mark/the-5r-questions>

Swedish Bible Study Method

Instructions

- Read the passage together aloud
- Read the passage again slowly by yourself
- Follow the [Swedish](#)² inductive bible study method
- Mark the passage with the symbols - *You may want to print it out to annotate*
- Share your observations as a group

1.  **A light bulb**

Something that 'shines' from the passage

Whatever impacts you the most or draws your attention

2.  **A question mark**

Anything that is difficult to understand from the passage

A question you would like to ask the writer or the Lord

3.  **The cross**

A reason to love Jesus and his cross more

A glimpse of God's glory

4.  **An arrow**

A personal application for your life

Something you think the Spirit is telling you to do in obedience

5.  **A talking bubble**








Someone who can benefit from what you have learned – your aim is to talk to this person before the next meeting

² <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/six-questions-to-ask-when-studying-the-bible-in-a-group>

Seven Arrows Bible Study Method

Instructions

- Read the passage together aloud
- Read the passage again slowly by yourself
- Follow the [Seven Arrows](#)³ bible study method





1.  What does this passage say?
2.  What did this passage mean to its original audience?
3.  What does this passage tell us about God?
4.  What does this passage tell us about people?
5.  What does this passage demand of me?
6.  How does this passage change the way I relate to people?
7.  How does this passage prompt me to pray?

³ <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/seven-arrows-basics-bible-study>

Discovery Bible Study Method

Instructions

- Follow the [Discovery](#)⁴ bible study method
- Read the passage together aloud
- Read the passage again slowly by yourself
- Retell the passage in your own words in pairs
- Share your answers on these four questions

1.  What does this passage tell us about God?
2.  What does this passage tell us about people?
3.  What does this passage tell us to do?
4.  Who am I going to tell about what I have learned?

⁴ <https://www.dbsguide.org>