

CONNECTGROUPGUIDE

Luke 4-5

CONTENTIOUS JESUS

Year of
HOPE
2025



CONTENTIOUS

JESUS

Luke 4-5

Luke 4:14-30

Fulfilment

Luke 4:31-44

Authority

Luke 5:1-11

Calling

Luke 5:12-26

Forgiving

Luke 5:27-39

Surprising

INTRO TO LUKE

Luke's purpose in writing his Gospel was to present an accurate, historical account of the life of Jesus. Being a doctor, he was highly educated and a man of science. He was also a close companion of Paul. Interestingly, he was a Gentile convert to Christianity, coming from Greece. Greeks were known as people of high detail, wanting things to be precise. All this gives us great confidence that what Luke gives us in his gospel is well researched, and is reliable.

This portion of Luke gives us the launch of Jesus ministry, and the message we clearly get is that Jesus is the long awaited Saviour. This causes both great joy and great consternation, as his authority becomes evident. His ministry starts with the claim that he is fulfilling Old Testament prophecy, and he calls others to join him in the task of proclaiming the Kingdom.

May you meet the contentious Jesus, and may your discipleship flourish as you let Dr Luke teach you new things about Him.

Some guidelines for Connect Group ...

- Come to the study prepared; preparation will greatly enrich your time together; it is recommended to take notes during the Sunday sermon, and to write down your thoughts as you prepare
- As part of your preparation, why not listen to the sermon again during the week (*most sermons are recorded and available on [Apple Podcasts](#), and also on the [website](#)*)
- As you prepare, pray that God will speak to you through his word
- Be willing to participate in your group. Your sharing will greatly encourage all the other members as you grow together
- Stick to the topic - this allows everyone to participate on level ground and to go deeper into the Bible
- Be sensitive to others and listen attentively; affirm others, especially those who may feel timid or don't often share
- Your leader won't be lecturing, but helping members to think through the questions. Many questions don't have a 'right' answer, especially those that apply the Bible to our lives
- Be careful not to dominate, as it could inhibit others from sharing
- Expect God to teach you through the passage and through other members, and always pray that it will be a profitable time together

INTRO

Have you ever had a promise or dream fulfilled in your life—something you were waiting for or hoping for that finally came true? How did it feel when it was finally realised?

Read Luke 4:14-30

1. What was Jesus' reputation at this point in His life? (4:14-15)
2. What does the reading from Isaiah reveal about God's heart for justice, mercy, and salvation?
3. What is Jesus declaring about His identity and mission when He says, "today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing"? (Luke 4:21)

Sermon Notes

4. How did the audience first respond to Jesus' reading? (4:20-22)

5. Why were the people angry with what Jesus said (4:23-29), and how did they express that anger?

6. What does Jesus' rejection in Nazareth reveal about the challenge of fulfilling God's promises?

7. How are you continuing Christ's ministry to the poor, needy, and marginalised people of this world?

Extension Question

8. How does the Holy Spirit empower Jesus in His unique mission in Luke 4:14 and 4:18?

How does Acts 1:8 show the Spirit's role in empowering us today as followers of Jesus?

In what ways are these roles similar or different?



- Pray for those who are marginalised, broken, or in need
- Pray for a deeper understanding of how Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promises
- Ask God to help us align our hearts with His mission to bring good news to the poor, heal the brokenhearted, and set the oppressed free

Sermon Notes

INTRO

Who has been an important authority figure in your life?

Read Luke 4:31-44

1. How is Jesus now fulfilling the mandate in Isaiah 61, which he read in the synagogue in last week's passage?

2. We are not told what Jesus taught that day, but from what you know of Jesus teaching in the Gospels, which teaching stands out to you as showing his authority?

Sermon Notes

3. How does Jesus' interaction with the evil spirit show his authority?

4. What is the response of Simon's mother-in-law to Jesus healing her?

5. Jesus had a very busy Sabbath. Despite this, at daybreak the next day he found time to pray. Do you find it easiest to pray when life is busy or when there is not so much happening?

6. How has prayer sustained you in ministry over the years?

7. What difference did prayer make for Jesus that morning?

Extension Question

8. Jesus ministry had authority. How was Jesus' authority different from that of the Jewish and Roman leadership of the day?



- Give thanks that Jesus is Lord, His teaching has authority and He has authority over all the forces of evil
- What is the focus of your ministry at this time? Ask God to sustain you in this ministry by His Holy Spirit

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

3. How do the other fishermen respond to the miraculous catch?
4. How does Simon respond? What causes his reaction in verse 8?
5. How does fishing for people differ from traditional fishing?
6. What has God asked you to leave behind? What made the disciples willing to leave their careers, families and what they knew behind?
7. How does Jesus' command to not be afraid help you in his calling to you?
8. What might Jesus be asking you to step out in boldness to do this week?



- The fish are plentiful and the fishermen few, ask the Lord to raise up more fisher-people, and to start with you
- Ask God to give you confidence and boldness to obey him and reach out to others with His good news
- Pray for specific people you'd like to share the gospel with

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

3. Why did Jesus tell the healed man to show himself to the priest?
4. v.16 Are you 'too busy to pray' or 'too busy not to pray'?
What was Jesus' attitude?
5. Why did Jesus say to the paralysed man, 'Your sins are forgiven' rather than, 'Get up and walk, you are healed'?
6. What does the title 'Son of Man' mean when Jesus uses it?
7. Do you think the Pharisees and teachers of the law were giving praise to God along with the crowd? Why not?



- Pray your friends would recognise their need of Jesus and would be open to conversation
- Pray that more people would recognise Jesus has authority to forgive their sins.

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

3. What did it mean to the Pharisees and teachers of the law that Jesus ate and drank with tax collectors and sinners? What does it mean to you?

4. Is there anyone Jesus may be calling you to include? Ask Him.

Read Luke 5:33-39

5. Is now a time for feasting or fasting? Why?

6. What do the bridegroom, garments and wineskins teach us about Jesus' ministry?

7. Wine is often a symbol of the Holy Spirit. How does Jesus' teaching and the Spirit's work break with the old and forge a new path?



- Praise God that we are included today.
- Ask God to grow your heart for the lost, to inspire you with His generosity, and to work through you to extend His invitation to many.

Sermon Notes



*Living to Love and
Proclaim Jesus*

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