

ULC Sermon Study Resource
The Gospel According to Luke // Jesus Does
Pastor Marcus Lane
April 11, 2021

Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: What's your favorite thing to do when it's raining?

Reading: Luke 1:1-4

Outline:

- I. Luke is about Jesus (v. 1)
 - a. Luke sets out to address the “things that have been accomplished among us” by Jesus.
 - b. Luke recounts “all that Jesus began to do and teach” (Acts 1:1) because *Jesus* is the center of our faith and the church and we worship Him as Lord of all.
Q: *Knowing Matthew and Mark's Gospels exist, why does Luke write this Gospel?*
- II. Luke is historical (v. 2)
 - a. Luke roots his retelling of Jesus' story in the accounts of eyewitnesses and those who are ministers of the word. This Gospel is rooted in history and apostolic witness, not legends.
Q: *How does the strong historical basis for Luke's Gospel give us confidence?*
- III. Luke is for you (v. 3-4)
 - a. Luke is writing directly to a man named Theophilus (whose name means “beloved by God”), but he is also writing to you.
 - b. Luke writes to you so that you would know Jesus, believe in him, have confidence that your sins are forgiven, tell of all he has done, and live your life centered in him.
Q: *Why is Luke's Gospel not for Theophilus alone, but also for all people?*

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) In addition to the Gospels, how can we view the whole Bible as all about Jesus?
- 2) Is it good for us to personally study and examine the historicity of the Gospels? Why or why not?
- 3) Each of the Gospels was originally written for a particular audience. How does Matthew's emphasis on Jesus as the Messiah of Old Testament prophecy, Mark's emphasis on Jesus as suffering servant, John's emphasis on Jesus as God incarnate, and Luke's emphasis on Jesus as savior for both Jew and Gentile give us a richer understanding and appreciation of our Lord?
- 4) How does Luke's Gospel give us “certainty concerning the things you have been taught”?
- 5) How can you share the “good news” of Jesus to the people in your lives this week?

Suggestions for further study:

- John 20:30-31 **Q: *What is the purpose of John's Gospel? Compare this to Luke's purpose.***
- Acts 1:1-5 **Q: *How do we see more of Luke's purpose in his second letter to Theophilus?***
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 **Q: *How is Jesus central to the Apostle Paul's message?***

Closing Prayer: “Gracious God, you have spoken to us in the book of Luke, the Gospels, and all of Scripture. In the midst of many claims about our reality and the struggles we are facing today, we ask that we would hear these words and stories fresh, and find our confidence before you in all that Jesus has done for us. Strengthen us with your spirit, Lord, and fill us with boldness to go and be your witnesses, that the world may know Jesus who has come for us. We ask this in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.”