



1-on-1 Discipleship Program

Study Questions

September 2023 – May 2024

These questions are an optional resource for the 12 recommended sessions of the 1-on-1 Discipleship Program. Feel free to use them or discuss on your own.

1. Luke 1-2

- What can we learn about the story of Zechariah, Elizabeth, and John's birth? Compare Mary's and Zechariah's response to the angel. What points of emphasis do you see in Mary's song (the Magnificat)? Zechariah's prophecy?
- What did you notice in reading Jesus' birth story that you might have missed before? What can we learn from all the little details Luke includes in this narrative? What might the peace of God among his people mean for you?
- What did you find interesting about Jesus' presentation at the temple? Compare the response of Simeon, Anna, and Mary to the baby Jesus with your own response to the gospel. What do you make of 12-year-old Jesus' behavior in the temple?

2. Luke 3-4

- John is sometimes called "the last Old Testament Prophet"—how is he like other OT prophets? How is he different? What did you notice in the genealogy of Jesus? What seems to be its emphasis? Why do you think Luke included it?
- What is similar between the temptations Jesus faced and the ones you do? What is different? What could you learn from Jesus' responses to the devil? How does this connect to what we have seen in Jesus' story so far?
- How does Jesus begin his ministry in Nazareth? How do the Nazarenes respond compared to the people in the cities Jesus visited next? What is the significance of the Jesus' first acts of ministry and the things he says while he does them?

3. Luke 5-6

- What lessons can we learn from the way that Jesus calls the various disciples? From the way they respond to him? Compare it to the way you came to follow Jesus.
- How does Jesus' healing speak to his identity and purpose, including in the way he goes about it? Aside from healing, what kinds of activity do you see Jesus doing in these chapters? Why do you think he does these things?
- How does Jesus deal with questions regarding his ministry and disciples? What does that say about him? How would you summarize Jesus' teaching in this chapter? How could you live out his words here, or help someone else to do the same?

4. Luke 7-8

- What differences and similarities do you see between the multiple times Jesus heals someone in these chapters? What kind of response do his miracles get compared to his teaching? What can you learn from that for your own life?
- What did you learn about Jesus' purpose, desires, and affections from his ministry in these chapters? Why does Jesus so often teach in parables? What purpose do they serve? Which of these parables resonates with you, and why?
- What kind of response is Jesus producing in those around him: those he heals, the crowd(s), John's disciples, the apostles? If you had to summarize Jesus' ministry up to this point in Luke, what would you say he is doing?

5. Luke 9-10

- Why do you think Jesus sends out the 12 disciples, and then the 72? Compare the responses of these groups to others we encounter in these chapters. How does Jesus' description of discipleship compare with your own experience of it?
- What connections are there between Peter's confession that Jesus is the Christ and the Transfiguration? In what ways do the disciples seem to understand who Jesus is and what he's doing, and in what ways do they seem to miss or misunderstand it?
- What strikes you about the Parable of the Good Samaritan? How might it connect to what happens with Martha and Mary? Do you resonate with Martha? Why or why not? Why do you think Jesus said Mary "has chosen the good portion?"

6. Luke 11-12

- What struck you in Jesus' teaching about prayer? Why do we so often need encouragement and guidance in prayer? How does Jesus' instruction here connect to the rest of what he says in these chapters?
- Why does Jesus speak so often on demons and unclean spirits? What application might this have for us today? Which of these woes that Jesus declares against the Pharisees and Law experts might you find applicable to yourself or to us today?
- What is the common thread running through Jesus' teaching in chapter 12? What should we be prioritizing according to Jesus' words here? How does that compare to what you currently prioritize and/or what you normally consider Jesus' priorities?

7. Luke 13-14

- What hard words does Jesus offer in these chapters? How does that compare to the message we often hear from culture, those around us, or our own selves? Why does Jesus so regularly say things that are difficult to hear?
- How is Jesus' heart on display in these verses? Who or what does he value? What are some ways that you could better reflect the things that Jesus values in what or who you care about and show affection and compassion toward?
- What do the parables Jesus tells in these chapters illustrate about the Kingdom of God? How does that compare with the values on display in our own lives? What cost to following Jesus do you need to count in your pursuit of him?

8. Luke 15-16

- What do the parables of chapter 15 have to tell us about seeking God? Compare the emotions of the various characters to that of your own spiritual walk. Which of the two sons do you most identify with, and why?
- What is the message of the Dishonest Manager Parable? How does the perspective Jesus encourages here compare with how you view your wealth and possessions? Why does Jesus speak so often and so critically about wealth and the rich?
- What should we learn from the Rich Man and Lazarus? Which of the two do you relate to more? What signs pointing to God do we often ignore today? Compare them to "Moses and the Prophets."

9. Luke 17-18

- In what ways does Jesus encourage people to follow after him or pursue God in these chapters? How does that compare to the ways we often think we should pursue God or the ways we *actually* pursue him?
- In what ways does Jesus undermine the expectations of his hearers? How might he undermine our expectations today? Why does Jesus repeat the prophecy of his death for a third time here?
- Who does Jesus draw near to in these chapters, and in what way? How does that change based on their position? What might Jesus' promise that those who have sacrificed will receive "many times more in this time" look like for us?

10. Luke 19-20

- In what way are you like Zacchaeus? How are you different? What is the connection between the story of Zacchaeus and the parable of the Ten Minas? What part of this parable might be challenging you?
- How is the person of Jesus on display his actions in and around entering Jerusalem? In how various people respond to him? In what ways does Jesus challenge people's expectations? Where might you be need your expectations of Jesus challenged?
- Why does Jesus have such harsh words for the religious leaders of his day? How might we fall into similar errors to theirs? How are Jesus' teachings bolder compared to earlier in this gospel, and why do you think that is?

11. Luke 21-22

- How might the example of the widow connect to the warnings of trial and chaos Jesus makes? What should we do with these predictions of Jesus? Why does Jesus make these predictions at this time?
- Why do you think Jesus chose to do and say these things to and with his disciples given the proximity to his death? What can we learn from how Jesus treats Judas in these verses? From the way he treats Peter?
- Given the typical familiarity with the story of Jesus' final night, what jumped out to you in this reading? What can we learn from the story of Peter? In what ways does Jesus' experience inform how we should deal with suffering?

12. Luke 23-24

- How do the authorities handle Jesus and the case brought against him? What perspective does that give you for authorities in our day? Compare their words in condemning him to Jesus' words as he approached death.
- What are some of the details of the crucifixion that stand out to you? What encouragement can we glean from this passage? How might our familiarity with what happened here and in what follows lessen its effect on us? How can we combat that?
- What is the account of Jesus' actions after his resurrection so sparse in comparison to what came before his death? How are we like the disciples on the road? In what ways does this final chapter point to the modern-day experience of Christ followers?

What should a typical one-to-one Bible reading meeting look like?

1. Reading – Read the passage together, out loud.
2. Conversation – About the passage and to/about each other.
3. Application – Consider how to make Scripture real in your life.
4. Prayer – Before/after reading. For each other. For specific things.
5. Plan – Set up your next meeting.