

The Eastern Regional Conference Ministry Training Institute

The Gospel of Luke: An Introductory Bible Study

April 13 – June 3, 2020: Every Monday & Wednesday Morning, 8 – 9:30 am

In order to get the most out of this study it would be best if everyone reads through Luke before the first class. It will also be helpful to read the other gospel accounts of Jesus, but they may be reserved for the appropriate week as indicated on the class schedule. Prior to each class the appertaining portion from Luke should be read prior to class. The three questions at the bottom will serve as our conversation guide.

General Introduction

- Author: Who was Luke and why did he write his Gospel?
- Date: When was Luke writing and what were the circumstances at the time?
- Composition:
 1. How is Luke's gospel related to Acts?
 2. How does Luke's gospel compare to the other Gospels?
 3. What were his sources?
 4. What were his objectives in writing?
 5. What is the basic structure/outline of his book?

The Setting of Luke

- Who was Luke's audience?
- What was happening at the time Luke was writing?
- Why was Luke concerned about the following items and how did he address them?
 1. The universality of the gospel (It's for Jews and Gentiles alike.)
 2. A desire to present an accurate record concerning what Christians believe
 3. To show Jesus as both Messiah (the Son of Man) and Lord (the Son of God)
 4. An emphasis on prayer
 5. A concern for "the least of these," especially women and children
 6. Jesus' love for "sinners": the outcast, the poor and those in need
 7. Jesus' disdain for the self-righteous and the "temple system"
 8. God's kingdom, both present and coming
 9. The significance of the Law and the Prophets as they pertain to Jesus
 10. The importance of the Holy Spirit

How to Read Luke

1. Trust God to give you insight. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you.
2. Consider the historical context.
3. Examine the content. Read and compare the parallel texts.
4. Write down any questions you have.
5. Look for timeless truths in the passage and how they apply to us today. (See the questions below.)

Three Questions to Answer When Reading Luke or any scripture

1. What do I learn about God?
2. What do I learn about mankind?
3. What do I learn that will help me be more like Jesus?