

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**Gracious & Authoritative Preaching**

LUKE 4:14-44

OVERVIEW

Luke is the longest and most comprehensive of the four Gospels, presenting Jesus as the Perfect Man who came to save sinful men. Growing belief and growing opposition develop side by side. Those who believe his claims are challenged to count the cost of discipleship; those who oppose him will not be satisfied until the Son of Man hangs lifeless on a cross. But the resurrection ensures that his ministry of seeking and saving the lost will continue through his disciples once they have been equipped with the indwelling Holy Spirit. Luke reveals that Jesus is the King, and he has come to inaugurate his Kingdom. (Adapted from *Talk Through the Bible*).

APPLY // LUKE 4:1-13

1. Read Luke 4:1-13
2. Why is it important to understand these verses are about Jesus as the sinless Son of God who defeats Satan in temptation and not just an example for us in our temptation?
3. What in this passage stirs your affections to treasure Christ even more?
4. What do we learn about the ways of the devil in this passage? What do we learn about the character of Jesus in this passage?
5. How do these verses help you think about temptation in your own life? How do they help you run to Jesus in the midst of being tempted?

STUDY // LUKE 4:14-44

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God's word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

Overview: Jesus is our great Prophet who brings good news of salvation to all peoples graciously uses his authority to bless.

1. Read Luke 4:14-30.
2. In verses 16-20, we have Jesus' first recorded public sermon in Luke's Gospel. What does Jesus do in these verses?
3. What is the quotation from Isaiah 61 about? How does Jesus "fulfill" this messianic prophecy?
4. According to verse 21, what is Jesus saying about himself?
5. In verse 22, did the people understand what Jesus said? Why or why not? Did the people understand who Jesus was? Why or why not?

6. What does Jesus say the people expect/desire in verse 23? How does this fit with how Jesus explains his mission in quoting Isaiah?
 7. What's Jesus' point in bringing the prophetic ministry of Elijah & Elisha in verses 24-27?
 - a. Insight: "They were 'Exhibits A and B,' proving Jesus' point about prophets who were not accepted at home (they were rejected)...And both men had performed miracles outside of their homeland. Both Elijah & Elisha pointed forward to Jesus by reminding Israel that God shows his favor and mercy to unlikely people—in their case even Gentiles."
 8. Why were the people "filled with rage" at Jesus' words?
 9. Read 4:31-44.
 10. How do the various events here serve as a "sermon illustration" for what Jesus said about himself?
 11. Discuss how you see the various areas of Jesus authority in these verses (i.e. authority in preaching, over demons, over sickness)? What does this tell us about who Jesus is? What does this tell us about what Jesus is like?
 12. What do we learn from the demons' admission of Jesus' identity in verse 34 and 41? Why doesn't Jesus allow the demons to speak about who he is?
 13. What do verses 42-44 teach us about how Jesus sees his ministry?
- General Bible study questions:
 - **God:** What does this passage teach me about the character of God?
 - **Humanity:** What does this passage teach me about myself and my need for God?
 - **Christ:** How does this passage teach me that God has met my needs in the person and work of Jesus Christ?
 - **Response:** How should I respond with my affections and my actions?
 - **God:** How does this passage help me hope in heaven?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: How are you doing treasuring Christ in the midst of temptation?