

### **COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**

# **Don't Look Back**

LUKE 9:51-62

#### **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 9:28-50

- 1. Read Luke 9:28-50
- 2. How do the truths of verses 28-36 (the Transfiguration), stir your affections for Jesus?
- 3. How does the glory of Christ compel us toward greatness (as Christ defines it, not how it's often defined by the world)? What might this look like in your day-to-day life?
- 4. How does the glory of Christ compel us to celebrate gospel advancement by other churches, Christians, gospel organizations, etc.?
- 5. Spend some time praying for the gospel to advance locally (through Restoration and other healthy churches, campus ministries, gospel non-profits, etc.) and globally.

### **OBSERVE & INTERPRET // LUKE 9:51-62**

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/Big Idea**: Jesus calls his disciples to follow him at all cost, not condemningly judge others who don't (though disciples are to warn of the judgment to come).

- 1. Read Luke 9:51-56.
- 2. Verse 51 references that the time for Jesus being "taken up" is near. What does the phrase "taken up" refer to? How does it fit the context of what's been happening?
- 3. What does it mean that Jesus "set his face to go to Jerusalem"? What does this phrase tell us about Jesus? How does this statement relate to the rest of Luke's Gospel, especially the previous events in chapter 9?
- 4. Jesus sends his disciples to the Samaritans. Who are they? How did they respond to the disciples' request? Why did they respond this way?
- 5. How do the disciples respond to the rejection of the Samaritans? What is their attitude?
- 6. How does Jesus respond to the disciples? What does this tell us about Jesus?

- 7. What is significant about what Jesus and his disciples finally did in verse 56?
- 8. Read Luke 9:57-62.
- 9. What repetition do you see in these verses?
- 10. What's the main idea of verses 57-62?
- 11. In verse 57, what does this person promise Jesus? What may have motivated this person to make such a commitment?
- 12. What does Jesus mean when he says, "the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head"? Why do you think Jesus responded in this way? What does this mean for those who say they will follow Jesus?
- 13. In verse 59, how does the person respond when Jesus says, "Follow me"? What does this tell us about how this person views Jesus?
- 14. Discuss Jesus' response to this person in verse 60. What does Jesus mean?
- 15. In verse 61, we see another person who says they will follow Jesus. But what caveat do they give? What does this tell us about this person's motivations and priorities?
- 16. Discuss Jesus' response to this person in verse 62. What does Jesus mean?
- 17. How would you summarize verses 51-62 in one sentence?
- 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 does Jesus definition of greatness encourage you? Convict and challenge you?