

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 1

The Biblical record: **The Birth of John The Baptist Foretold** Luke 1:5-25

Sermon: **New Year Resolutions You Can Keep** Luke 1:1-4 / Philipians 3:7-16

Memory Verses: Luke 1:1-4

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How was your 2011 New Year's Eve celebration different from other years?
 - b. Did you make any resolutions? Which one is most important?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. The angel Gabriel was very busy before Jesus was born.
 - b. His message to Zachariah and Mary was different because of the important roles of John and Jesus.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How does Luke 1:1-4 set up the report of activities of the foretelling of John The Baptist.
 - b. Why did the people wonder what happened to Zachariah?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. Why was Zachariah in the Holy of Holies?
 - b. What is the importance of the fact that Zachariah and Elizabeth had no children?
 - c. What happened next?
 - d. Was anything left out?
6. Ask discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about angels from this report?
 - b. How does God work through angels?
 - c. What role did The Holy Spirit have in this event?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. Which character do you identify most with from this account?
 - b. When was the last time you doubted God? What happened?
 - c. When have you been obedient to God and still felt forgotten?
 - d. How is John's mission a model for your mission today?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 2

The Biblical record: **The Birth of Jesus** Luke 2:1-20

Sermon: **God's Great Teaching Plan** Luke 2:40-52

Memory Verses: Luke 2:51-52

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Were you surprised at the extensive preparation God made of the Birth of Jesus?
 - b. Did you find any occasions to Praise God as Mary and Zachariah did?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Even the Roman Government helped ensure that the prophecies concerning the Messiah would be fulfilled.
 - b. Luke's record of the birth Luke 2:6-7 reveal the "mater of fact" approach of a physician.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. What did the angel tell the shepherds? Luke 2:9-10
 - b. How is this different from what angels sang/ Luke 2:13
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. God's heaven celebrated this birth because. . .
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about how God views human beings from this account?
 - b. How does the celebration "prefigure" the life, death and resurrection of Jesus?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What precious event has God done that you have "treasured in your heart"?
 - b. What effect has the news of Christ's birth had on you?
 - c. If you were to spread the word about what Jesus has done for you, with whom would you speak first?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 3

The Biblical record: **The Baptism of Jesus** Luke 3:21-23

Sermon: **Great Baptism** Luke 3:21-22

Memory Verses: Luke 3:21-22

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. The birth of Jesus seems to change everything. How did the review of these events change you this week?
 - b. Who did you tell about the “Great Birth” of God's Son?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Jesus grows up with Mary and Joseph (Luke 2:40-52) and at age 12 goes to the Temple and “instructs” the teachers of the law.
 - b. John the Baptist is fulfilling his calling by “preparing” the way for The Messiah.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Why was Jesus baptized?
 - b. How is His baptism related to yours?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. Who else was present at Jesus baptism?
 - b. What did God say about Jesus? What does that mean?
 - c. What happened next?
 - d. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What do we learn about the Godhead from this account?
 - b. What role did God, The Holy Spirit, and Jesus fulfill from this recorded event?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. How has Jesus provided you with a “new start” in life?
 - b. What means the most to you about your own baptism?
 - c. When in your life have you felt God's special touch as if something new were beginning for you? What happened?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 4

The Biblical record: **Jesus Heals Many** Luke 4:38-44

Sermon: **Great Temptation** Luke 4:1-13

Memory Verses: Luke 4:17-19

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Who did you tell this week about your baptism?
 - b. What happened?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Following Jesus baptism he was led “by the Holy Spirit” into the desert and was tempted. Following this victory Jesus is rejected at Nazareth after telling them of His mission.
 - b. He drive out evil spirits and then goes to the home of Simon Peter.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Did you know Peter was married?
 - b. Why is this important to the account?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. As soon as Peter's mother-in-law was healed she began to wait on them, does this surprise you?
 - b. Jesus healing many people and the testimony by the demons caused Jesus to tell the demons what to do. What was that?
 - c. What happened next?
 - d. Did Jesus move on following these events? Where did he go?
 - e. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. How does God heal people today?
 - b. Is Jesus your healer? Explain?
 - c. What do the demons know that many people today do not know?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. How has Jesus's authority grabbed your attention lately?
 - b. How is His authority bringing freedom to you?
 - c. Jesus was obviously busy, yet He takes time to be alone. How do you discern God's long range call to you amidst all the shouting of the urgent needs?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 5

The Biblical record: **The Calling of the first disciples** Luke 5:1-11

Sermon: **Think Outside The Boat** Luke 5:1-11

Memory Verses: Luke 5:10-11

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How were you tempted this past week?
 - b. How did you answer the temptation? How did you use God's Word?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Jesus has been teaching and connecting to people. These men know Him and are beginning to trust Him.
 - b. As Jesus teaches people are encouraged by what they hear. The crowds grow.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Do you think a boat makes a good pulpit?
 - b. What other ideas do you have to give Jesus a "platform" to continue teaching?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. How long had they been fishing?
 - b. What were they doing while Jesus was teaching?
 - c. Did you notice that Jesus asked for the boat first?
 - d. What happened next?
 - e. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What does this account reveal about how God is Lord of all fish?
 - b. In what ways does this account teach us that Jesus know more about your occupation than you do?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. When was the first time you felt Jesus tug on your heart? What did you do?
 - b. What would it mean for you to be "catching people" for Jesus?
 - c. What would be the greatest thing you would like to do with your life? What is keeping you from doing that?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 6

The Biblical record: **Love for Enemies** Luke 6:27-36

Sermon: **The Twelve** Luke 6:12-16

Memory Verses: Luke 6:27-28

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Do you catch any people this week?
 - b. How did God use your “boat” this week?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Jesus continues to teach about God's justice and love.
 - b. The conflict with the Pharisees continues.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. As a child who were the bad guys on your favorite Saturday morning cartoons or TV shows?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. How does Jesus change the focus of the object of love from self to others?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. How does this teaching change everything about what you know about God?
 - b. Does Jesus mean this literally? Why? Or why not?
 - c. Such high standards are a call to: Change?, Ignore?, Ask for help? Find someone to help you live out this call?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. How does this description of love challenge you?
 - b. How can that be a model for relating to someone you find difficult?
 - c. Have you ever shown love to an enemy? How? What happened?

Prayer Requests

Following Jesus Finding Faith
Bible Story Telling Format
Luke 7

The Biblical record: Luke 7:36-50 Jesus is Anointed by a prostitute!
Sermon: The power of Faith is in the Object not in the Subject!
Memory Verses: Luke 7:47

Small Group Meeting

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Bible Story Telling is about knowing the story personally and taking ownership of it.
 - b. This is a time to go deeper in your walk with Jesus.
 - c. The goal is to reach out to others –
 - i. New people in this group
 - ii. Branch new groups – So you will have more close relationships

2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. What is your favorite perfume or cologne?
 - b. Who is the most affectionate person in your family?

3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How did Jesus always Practicing What He Preached?
 - b. Jesus:
 - Loved his enemy.
 - Didn't judge because of position or title.
 - Did judge by what was said and done.
 - Showed mercy to the least deserving.

4. Tell the story.

5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What happened next?
 - b. Was anything left out?

6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about God?
 - b. What impressed you about yourself in the passage?

7. Application Questions.
 - a. What does Jesus see in this woman that Simon does not see?
 - b. What does Jesus see in you that others do not see?
 - c. How difficult is it for you to express your love in a relationship with Jesus?
 - d. What is the most loving thing you have ever done for Jesus? For someone else? How was Jesus a part of it?
 - e. What have you found to be the hardest thing about dealing with sin and failure?
 - f. What needs to happen for you to feel the kind of forgiveness this women felt?
 - i. I need to take an honest look at my life
 - ii. I need to get my life straightened out first
 - iii. I need to find someone to talk to who is as sympathetic s Jesus.
 - iv. I need to stop listening to the "Pharisees" who condemn me.
 - v. I need to accept the forgiveness which Jesus has already offered.
 - vi. Nothing, really, because I'm feeling Christ's forgiveness fully.
 - vii. Other: _____
 - g. What have you learned that you can apply this week?

8. Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 8

The Biblical record: Luke 8: 1-15 (4-8)

Sermon: The only soil we can till is our own – there are stages/steps in growing

Memory Verses: Luke 8: 19-21

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Did you think about the woman who anointed Jesus during the week?
 - b. Who did you think about:
 - i. Simon the Pharisee and his home
 - ii. The woman - sinful
 - iii. The alabaster of perfume/oil
 - iv. Jesus
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. The anointing by this "sinful woman" may be a sign that Jesus is "anointed" to die for gentiles as well as for Jews.
 - b. It seems that Jesus moves right on to his mission of "proclaiming the good news" and teaching people what it means to listen to God and to follow His Word
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. What kind of luck have you had growing things?
 - b. Are you a "green thumb" or a "brown thumb?"
 - c. What is the secret of success (or reason for failure)?
4. Tell the story. Luke 8:1-15 (4-8)
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What happened next?
 - b. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What do we learn about the Word of God?
 - b. Who can till your soil? How?
 - c. Do you sometimes "hear and not understand" and "see but not really see?"
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What kind of soil best represents you?
 - i. Dead
 - ii. Infant
 - iii. Child
 - iv. Young adult
 - v. Parent
 - b. How about 5 years ago?
 - c. What help did you get from this story about sharing your faith with others?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 9

The Biblical record: Luke 9:10-17

Sermon: Words Make a Difference – Luke 9:18-27

Memory Verses: Luke 9: 20 and Luke 9:23-26

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Why did Jesus teach in parables?
 - b. When it comes to “hearing” The Word of God right now, are you:
 - i. Still dead?
 - ii. Locked in on the station? (Child like learning)
 - iii. Getting a lot of static? (Young adult – trouble sorting)
 - iv. Barely picking up the signal? (Adult but no reproduction)
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Jesus sends out the 12 “with authority” to preach The Kingdom of God
 - b. They are to take nothing for the trip.
 - c. When they return – there were large crowds
 - d. Jesus wanted to withdraw to Bethsaida
 - e. The crowds followed
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How do you unwind when you return from work or a trip: Eat? Read? Sleep? Play? TV?
 - b. Why does Jesus take His disciples away with Him when they return from the mission?
 - c. How do you account for the way Jesus and The Disciples view the crowd?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What happened next?
 - b. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What thoughts must the Disciples have when they gather the leftovers?
 - b. What did you learn about God from this account?
 - c. What did you learn about yourself as you studies the story and heard it again tonight?
 - d. Who did you identify with most closely in this account:
 - i. The hungry crowd?
 - ii. The weary Disciples?
 - iii. The stunned Disciples – “you give them something to eat”?
 - iv. The boy (we learn about him in John 6:9)?
 - v. The satisfied crowd?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. From what do you need rest: work hassles? Family? Church activities? Community Activities? School deadlines?
 - b. How will you cope when God gives you a new challenge instead?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 10

The Biblical record: Luke 10:25-37 “The Good Samaritan”

Sermon: The Mission – He sent out 72 others – Luke 10:1-24

Memory Verses: Luke 10:16 and Luke 10:25-28

Pray

1. Briefly review last week’s story – catch up with group.
 - a. What do you suppose they did with the 12 basketfuls that were leftover?
 - b. How did God give you an abundance this past week?
2. Transition to this week’s story.
 - a. Peter’s confession followed the feeding of the 5,000 men
 - b. The Transfiguration of Jesus took place next
 - c. Then some healing’s, some opposition and Jesus teaching about the cost being his followers
 - d. He sends out the 72 on a mission – some important lessons for how we should do evangelism
 - e. A lawyer asks Jesus a question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. What does Jesus tell him?
 - b. What is most shocking about this question and the answer?
 - c. Have you ever helped a stranger in distress? What happened?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What happened next?
 - b. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about God from this parable?
 - b. How does this parable help you understand how much God loves you?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What attitude does God want you to have – that is most difficult to accept?
 - b. What behavior does God want you to have that is most difficult to accept?
 - c. To whom will be a “good Samaritan this week?”

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 11

The Biblical record: Luke 11:33-36 The parable of the Lighted Lamp

Sermon: Learnings about prayer Luke 11:1-13

Memory Verses: Luke 11: 1-4

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Who were The Good Seminarian this week?
 - b. What happened?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. How many flashlights do you own? How many work?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. In our story this week what does the "light" represent?
 - b. What is the "sign of Jonah? 11:29-32
 - c. How is the parable of the Lighted Lamp connected to the charges that Jesus was doing miracles by the power of Beelzebub? Luke 11:14-28
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What happened next?
 - b. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about your self from this parable?
 - b. What did you learn about Jesus from this story?
 - c. What is your most difficult "focus" in your life?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. How should God's light shine our of you this week?
 - b. What do you need to do to allow that to happen?
 - c. What are your eyes taking in that may be "bad" vers 34 for your life?
 - d. How will you change that focus this week?
 - e. How can we pray for you?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 12

The Biblical record: Luke 12:13-21, The Parable of The Rich Fool

Sermon: How to stay on course when suffering is present – Luke 12:1-12

Memory Verse: Luke 12: 8-9

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How did God help you “light and focus” your lamp this week?
 - b. What happened?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Jesus teaching often comes in answer to a question. Why are questions important to our learning?
 - b. What question do you have for Jesus?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How has the “materialism” and “greed” of our world affected you?
 - b. Why is this important for your Christian walk?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What happened next?
 - b. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about your self from this story?
 - b. What does this passages teach you about God?
 - c. How does Jesus “command teaching” in vers 15 make a difference in your spending plans?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What do you value most in your life: family, friends, integrity, memories, financial assets, work, faith, time? How does this match the learning from this story? Why or why not?
 - b. How can you be “rich toward God?”
 - c. If you should die today, what would the people closest to you say about you in the newspaper?
 - d. If your life ended “this very night” what would be your biggest regret?
 - e. What can you do now to change that?
 - f. What can you do this week to change that?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 13

The Biblical record: Luke 13:10-17 Healing of Woman on the Sabbath

Sermon: Luke 13:1-17 suffering and God's Goodness

Memory Verses: Luke 13: 18-21

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Just for fun, if the Rich Young Ruler (call him George Megabucks) in the parable from last week lived in your community, what neighborhood would he live in and what kind of car would he drive?
 - b. Would someone in Africa say you were George? Why or Why not?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Are you a “rules are meant to be broken” or a “play it by the rules” kind of person?
 - b. What does Luke 13:11 tell us about Dr. Luke?
 - c. Do you believe God knows as much about your life as Dr. Luke knew about this woman?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Why does Jesus expose the ruler's hypocrisy?
 - b. Does God care about our hypocrisy?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What is the context of this account?
 - b. What happened first?
 - c. What happened next?
 - d. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. Who do you identify closest to in this story?
 - b. What do we learn about how God views the Ten Commandments?
 - c. How do you use the Ten Commandments? Gridlines or Laws?
 - d. How do you “delighted” when good over comes harshness?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What tensions between caring for people and keeping religious rules do you experience?
 - b. How do you reconcile this connection between physical and spiritual healing?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 14

The Biblical record: Luke 14:15-24 The Parable of the Great Dinner

Sermon: Luke 14:15-24 Lessons of Love

Memory Verses: Luke 14: 26-28

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How did you find your self remembering the account to the woman Jesus healed on the Sabbath?
 - b. What happened in your life that cause you to be grateful that God is still in the healing business?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. How does sharing a meal with some people change your relationship to those people?
 - b. What is so powerful about eating together with family and friends?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Where does this account really begin? (See vers Luke 14:1)
 - b. Notice how the observation about eating a fest in The Kingdom of God becomes the occasion for this parable.
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. Who are the invited guests?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
 - d. What is pinnacle vers in this parable? (Luke 14:23)
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What do we learn about God from this parable?
 - b. What do we learn about Church Growth from this parable?
 - c. From your experience, what excesses do people make to avoid "God's Banquet invitation?"
 - d. What excuses have you used?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What can we say to help people overcome their hesitation to come to God's Banquet?
 - b. How will you use this approach this week?
 - c. Do you need to reevaluate your priorities in life?
 - d. How can this group help?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 15

The Biblical record: Luke 15:11-32

Sermon: Luke 15:1-32 Lost and Found

Memory Verses: Luke 15:31-32

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Did you invite someone to your “banquet” this week? What happened?
 - b. As you thought about the Great Banquet Parable who do you identify most closely?
 - c. How is last week's account connected to this weeks story?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. What of your possessions were recently lost? Recently found?
 - b. Does God care about your loses? Does He care about your “founds?”
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Why did Jesus tell these three parables? (Luke 15:1-2)
 - b. Where are you in birth order in your family? What effect has this had on your family relationships?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What started this parable?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about God?
 - b. What did you learn about your own father?
 - c. How does this impact your role as a child or a parent?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. Comparing your self to these two brothers, who are you most like? Why?
 - b. Are you quietly “at home?”
 - c. Are you living only for “today?”
 - d. Are you on your way home?
 - e. How have you experienced God as similar to this father?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 16

The Biblical record: Luke 16:1-13 Parable of The Dishonest Manager

Sermon: Luke 16:19-31 Beyond 1 Day

Memory Verses: Luke 16:10-13

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How did you remember the “lost brothers” this week?
 - b. Did God remind you of anything about Him self?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Why would be important for Jesus' disciples to hear this parable?
 - b. How do crises in life bring us back to some fundamental values?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. What crises does this manager find himself in?
 - b. What plan does he devise?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. In light of this mangers' scheme how does the owner commend him?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. How is this master like God?
 - b. How is this manger a “model” for your behavior? If not why not?
 - c. How is the problem of serving two masters (Luke 16:13) important in your Christian walk?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. When Jesus summarizes the parable in Luke 16:9, what is He commending?
 - b. How do you want your life to be remembered, Dishonest servant, Debts forgiven without reason, Decisive business person, Schemer or honest shooter?
 - c. How does money connect to God in this parable?
 - d. What is the toughest decision you need to make concerning your finances?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 17

The Biblical record: Luke 17:11-19 Healing of The Ten Leapers

Sermon: Luke 17:20-37 The Coming Kingdom

Memory Verses: Luke 17:1-4

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. What did you think about the Dishonest Manger this week?
 - b. What feelings did that generate?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. When it comes to **Thank You notes** are you; Miss Manners, Sir Sometimes, Father Forgetful? Why?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. What is the closest you have to come to experiencing a miraculous healing?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What brought about this healing?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about God from this healing account?
 - b. What did Jesus do for these people? What will He do for you?
 - c. What do we learn about thankfulness from this account?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. The man who was healed praised God in a loud voice and threw himself at Jesus' feet. What keeps you from being this expressive of your thanks to Jesus?
 - b. How has Jesus healed or cleansed you in the past?
 - c. What healing or cleansing do you need now?
 - d. How do you plan to express your thanks for your healing this week?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 18

The Biblical record: Luke 18:18-30 The Rich Young Ruler

Sermon: Luke 18:1-17 Connected to God (Mother's Day)

Memory Verses: Luke 18:15-17

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How were you able to express thanks this week?
 - b. What happened when you did it?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Is your approach to God passive or active?
 - b. What has God told you that you need to do to follow His Son Jesus?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. What do you like best about the **Rich Young Ruler**?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. How does the rich young ruler address Jesus?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. According to this account what does God want from each of us?
 - b. How will Jesus ask you for your allegiance?
 - c. What do we learn about how God feels about the poor from this encounter?
 - d. What is the contrast between this account and the children being brought to Jesus?
 - e. What does this teach you about following Jesus?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What do you need to give to the poor?
 - b. How will you accomplish this desire?
 - c. What should we be doing as a Congregation for the poor?
 - d. What will you do to help that to happen?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 19

The Biblical record: Luke 19:11-27 The Parable of the Pounds
Sermon: Luke 19:1-10 and 41-44 Up in a Tree and Out on a Limb
Memory Verses: Luke 19:37-40

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Did you meet any “rich young rulers” this week?
 - b. What happened?
 - c. Were they willing to follow Jesus?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. What is the best financial investment you every made?
 - b. What principles did you use to make this investment?
 - c. How were you rewarded?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Where did the man of noble birth go? (Luke 19:12)
 - b. What talents and resources do you think Jesus has left with you?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. As the man left who did he appoint over his affairs?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. How is this noble man like God?
 - b. What can we learn about God's justice from this parable? (Luke 19:14 & 27)
 - c. What being a “faithful steward” mean for Christ Followers?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. How have you invested that talents God left with you?
 - b. How has God multiplied those talents?
 - c. Is fear ever a motive in your relationship with Christ? Why?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 20

The Biblical record: Luke 20:9-19 Parable of the Wicked Tenants

Sermon: Luke 20:1-8 Under Authority

Memory Verses: Luke 20:20-26

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Did you find any new “pounds” in your life this week?
 - b. What did you do with them?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. When have you recently experienced, “three strikes and you're out”: Employment? Dating? School? Family?
 - b. How did you handle the rejection?
 - c. Is this how you “usually” handle rejection?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How is the parable related to the question of Jesus' Authority raised in Luke 20:1-8?
 - b. Who makes an investment in the vineyard?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. Once the investment is made how much time did the owner go away?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. Ask discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What does this tell us about where God is right now?
 - b. What is the proper stewardship of God's vineyard?
 - c. Who does the son in this parable represent?
 - d. How does the quoted scripture (Luke 20:17) relate to the parable (Luke 20:9-16)?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. At different times in your life, how have you received Jesus?
 - b. How do you receive him now?
 - c. How is your stewardship of money connected to the teaching of this parable?
 - d. Is Jesus more like a “millstone” (weight) or a “capstone” (one that holds things together) in your life? Why?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 21

The Biblical record: Luke 21:1-4 The Widows Offering

Sermon: Luke 21:34-38 Being Ready

Memory Verses: Luke 21:1-4

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Did you feel like the “wicked tenants” this week? In what way?
 - b. How did you feel like God was “proud” of you this week?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. Jesus is now in His final week on earth. He spends time in the city and in the garden.
 - b. As he is in the temple area where people are putting money in the temple treasury. This was outside in the court of the women. They could not go any further into the Temple.
 - c. The treasury was like an inverted mega phone where people could give their tithes and offerings. There were 13 of them in this area.
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How small were these coins?
 - b. What do they represent to this woman?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What caused Jesus to notice this woman?
 - b. Who was putting money into the treasury?
 - c. What happened next?
 - d. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What does this tell us about the importance of giving to God?
 - b. What does God expect from you?
 - c. Why does Jesus focus on the giver and not the gift? Is there any “real” gift in this account?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. What are you giving to God?
 - b. What is your level of Stewardship? A tip? A ticket price (entertainment level)? An emotional level? A promise level? A Christian level?
 - c. How are these levels different? How are they the same?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 22

The Biblical record: **The Lord's Supper** Luke 22:14-30

Sermon: **Being Faithful** Luke 22:54-71

Memory Verses: Luke 22: 19-20

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. Do you know anyone who gives like the widow in chapter 21?
 - b. How does your giving match up against this lady?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. During this part of the last week of Jesus' life the betrayal, The Last Supper, the prayer in Gethsemane, His arrest, and Peter's denial take place.
 - b. What were your meal times like in the home where you grew up?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. Where did everyone sit around the table?
 - b. What one vivid memory do you have about each family member?
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What is the purpose of the Passover meal they were eating when Jesus' initiated "The Lord's Supper?"
 - b. What happened first?
 - c. What happened next?
 - d. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What do you think Jesus felt at this "last supper"?
 - b. What did you learn about God's planning for your salvation from this event?
 - c. What did you learn about the Apostles from this account?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. Why is The Lord's Supper important to Christ followers?
 - b. How do you prepare for Communion to make it more meaningful?
 - c. How is God calling you to make your life more service-oriented?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format

Luke 23

The Biblical record: **Jesus is Crucified** Luke 23:32-43

Sermon: **How Death Makes a Difference** Luke 23:44-49

Memory Verses: Luke 23:44-46

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How was your “communion” experience different as a result our study?
 - b. What aspect of The Lord's Supper is most important to you?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. The two “criminals” executed with Jesus have received a lot of attention through the years, why do you think this is happens?
 - b. The impact of the “thief on the cross” asking for forgiveness on folks understanding of the role of baptism is very large.
 - c. What makes the thief's response different from your response?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. How does the execution of these two criminals mark the death of Jesus?
 - b. Jesus is always seeking to save the lost even as He is dying on a cross!
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. What movements were going on between the trail and the crucifixion?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. What did you learn about God from this account?
 - b. How did this record of Jesus' death change your understanding of purpose for His life?
 - c. Where was The Holy Spirit during this time?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. When did the meaning of the death of Christ begin to make sense to you?
 - b. How do you explain the Crucifixion to a non-Christian friend?
 - c. Who in this story do you identify with most? Least? Why?

Prayer Requests

Bible Story Telling Format Luke 24

The Biblical record: **The Walk to Emmaus** Luke 24:13-32

Sermon: **A Clear Commission to Make a Difference** Luke 24:44-49

Memory Verses: Luke 24:1-8

Pray

1. Briefly review last week's story – catch up with group.
 - a. How did your week progress in light of **The Crucifixion**?
 - b. How did the three days between the crucifixion and the resurrection allow God to finalize His plan for save humanity?
2. Transition to this week's story.
 - a. This account is unique to Luke. Luke wanted to report the reality of a resurrected person with friends, food with friends, talking with friends.
 - b. When you are down do you want to be alone or with others?
3. Ask pre-story question.
 - a. When did you last experience a broken dream or a broken heart?
 - b. How did your friends help you through this event.
4. Tell the story.
5. Ask questions to rebuild the story.
 - a. When did these two disciples go to Emmaus?
 - b. What happened next?
 - c. Was anything left out?
6. As discussion (Thumbprint) questions.
 - a. How did God show up this record?
 - b. Was Jesus “toying” with these disciples when he acted like he was going to leave them?
 - c. How does Jesus make your mind and heart “burn” for Him?
7. Application Questions.
 - a. Where is your “road to Emmaus” – the place where Jesus surprised you recently?
 - b. Did you urge Him to stay with you?
 - c. How well do you think you can explain the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the way a person can have a relationship with Him?

Prayer Requests