

Week 3

Small Group

1. Ask what they got out of their reading last week. (5 Minutes)
2. Beginning Discussion Questions (5-10 Minutes):
 1. Did you see in Mark how the theme centered around Jesus being God's servant? How did that become relevant to you in the book of Mark?
 2. Could you see a difference in Matthew and Mark's writings? What were some things that you noticed?

3. Video: Week 3 (12:16):

Luke was the Author and was Paul's Disciple.

Written in 50's and 60's

Place of writing: Believed to be written in Rome or Greece.

Original intended Audience: Theophilus and Gentiles

Luke was a Doctor.

Theme: Jesus is the Savior of all mankind.

Luke is the only Gentile author of any book in the Bible.

Identifying Jesus as God's unique Son. His unique fulfillment of scripture, unique birth, unique qualifications for ministry, unique power and authority, unique titles.

An Outline of the Book of Luke:

- Introduction of the Son of Man (1:1-4:13)
- Ministry of the Son of Man (4:14-9:50)
- Rejection of the Son of Man (9:51-19:27)
- Passion of the Son of Man (19:28-23:56)

- Victory of the Son of Man (24:1-24:53)

Luke emphasized the universality of Christ's ministry, especially to the poor and social outcasts.

Ministry to:

1. Gentiles: Genealogy from Adam, dates tied to secular history
2. Samaritans: Parable of the Good Samaritan, Ten Lepers (only Samaritan returned to thank Jesus)
3. The Poor: Story of Nazareth and the rich man; the "poor" inherit the earth, Jesus' birth in a manger, Angels appear to the shepherds.
4. Social Outcasts: The thief on the cross, immoral woman who anointed Jesus' feet; The Pharisee and the tax collector and the Prodigal Son.
5. Women: Witness of Elizabeth, importance of the widow, Jairus' daughter healed, Mary and Martha.

Emphasis on Prayer

- Luke records 11 prayers of Jesus (7 unique to his Gospel) while Matthew reports 3 prayers, Mark records 4 prayers and John also has 4 prayers of Jesus.
- Luke includes teaching on prayer that the others don't.

Emphasis on Praise and Thanksgiving:

1. The Ave Maria (1:28) – Gabriel's greeting to Mary.
2. The Magnificat (1:46-56) – Mary's praise song for God's Mercy and deeds.
3. The Benedictus (1:68-79) – Zechariah's praise and prophesy about God's Salvation
4. The Gloria Excelsus (2:14) – The Angels song of praise at the birth of Jesus
5. The Nunc Dimittis (2:29-32) – Simeon's praise for having lived to see the Messiah

4. Go over and discuss video notes with group (5- 7 minutes)

5. Questions from the Video (5-10 Minutes):

1. Why do you think Luke focused on the outcast and the poor more than Matthew and Mark?
2. Why is it so important that Luke wrote the book of Luke?
 - a. Was being the only Gentile to write a book in the Bible important?

6. Discuss what they are hoping to get out of the reading this week (3-5 Minutes)

7. Prayer (5 Minutes)

- Take prayer requests.
- Pray together as a group.