



friendship
community church

Family Worship Service

Luke 4:14-30

Week of March 10-16, 2019

Do a quick review of Luke 4.

An important reminder - The Spirit led Jesus to temptation but not into temptation. Jesus had to decide if He was going to give in.

Review the temptations of appetite, ambition, and affirmation.

Ask, Since we last studied these three areas of temptations, how have you allowed the Holy Spirit to guide you?

This week's big question - Are you ready for ministry?

"And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.' And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' And he said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.'" And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away."

Luke 4:14-30 ESV

Where is your hometown? What do you like best about your hometown? How often do you go back and visit?

Jesus starts out strong - v. 14-15

He is a Hometown Hero as Jesus returns to Nazareth.

Jesus heads to the synagogue on the sabbath to read. (Earliest mention of the synagogue in time. Only for the Jews. The normal order in the synagogue was to - sing a Psalm, read the Shema (Deut. 6), reading of the law in Hebrew - reading of blessings, a sermon, and a closing blessing)

Jesus doesn't pull a scroll of the Law but from Isaiah.

Jesus reads a passage, hands it off and sits down. No immediate explanation or teaching.

Everyone was staring at Him. Why might they be staring at Him?

Then he said, "Today the Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." This is an amazing and even a blasphemous statement according to the Jews.

Wait, isn't this Joseph's Son?

No Big Finish

Jesus obviously had done something in Capernaum and they wanted Him to do something similar. (We don't know what it was.)

Jesus tells them two OT stories of prophets who God sent to them in a way they did not understand. You might want to refresh yourself on the story of Elijah and the widow (*1 Kings 17*) and Elisha and the Syrian (*2 Kings 5*). They ministered to non-Jews because they would hear. Many believe this to be a foreshadowing of the Gospel being sent to the non-Jew.

Back to Luke 4 and those in the synagogue. - They were filled with wrath and quickly He is unpopular and they drive Him out of town to kill Him. How quickly things can change.

Ask, What are some things you have trouble accepting based more on personal preference rather than seeing God at work in ways that you might not prefer?

Jesus passes through them all and goes away. We do not know if He pulls some kind of disappearing act or they realize He has a power they cannot understand and just allow Him to leave.

Here is a great truth –

Jesus proves to be faithful among those who have known Him best. Even in their rejection of Him.

When God uses us, He uses us for:

His purpose- “If you’re too big to serve in the small things, you’re too small to be used in the big things.”

His people- God may send you to those other than “your people.”

His place – Sometimes God calls you to a place where He can use you best and it may or may not be your preference. Will you be faithful to go where He has called you?

Have you committed to faithfulness? To surrender? To trust Him?

God will continue to give you the same test over and over again in order to mold and shape you in the image of Christ.

Take time to share prayer requests and pray.