

Sermon Study Guide - 21 March 2021

Series: Luke

Text: Luke 22:63-23:17



This guide will help you facilitate a study of the Bible passage with a focus on applying God's truth to our lives together. Look at the Big Idea and Takeaway for our CGs sections at the beginning of the guide to keep the discussion focused. For a deeper dive into the passage, refer to the [text notes](#) on the passage.

Overview

Context of Luke

Luke the Greek physician was Paul's companion during his mission in proclaiming the gospel. Luke wrote this gospel as the first volume of a single work, consisting of The Gospel Of Luke and Acts. Both volumes are addressed to Theophilus and are written in a similar style. The Book of Acts refers to The Gospel Of Luke in its introduction. As a Greek and later a companion of Paul, Luke had never met Jesus personally, yet as a scholar and physician, he set upon the task to interview and record the events of the life of Jesus, according to Jesus' close companions and earliest eyewitnesses (1:1-4). Luke's gospel is, therefore, the most detailed, and it contains the most material of the three synoptic gospels.

Big Idea

In the face of grave injustice, manipulation and chaos, Jesus remains in control, willingly subjecting Himself to it in order that His Father's will may be fulfilled.

CG Takeaway

To reckon with and meditate on the depth of humiliation and injustice that Jesus faced in order to redeem us. Being moved and strengthened by His love for us, we respond in the same manner in similar circumstances.

Fallen Condition Focus

- Rejecting Jesus by suppressing the truth of who He is for our own gains or to escape inconvenience (e.g. Pilate and Herod not intervening)

- Trivialising the depth of humiliation, mockery and injustice that Jesus subjected Himself to for us
- Being disinterested in the truth and manipulating God's Word and Jesus in order to support the narrative that we want to hear
- In the midst of chaos and injustice, to prioritise our rights and the justice owed to us rather than laying them down for the sake of God's larger purposes and glory

Luke 22:63-23:17

Jesus Is Mocked

63 Now the men who were holding Jesus in custody were mocking him as they beat him. 64 They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" 65 And they said many other things against him, blaspheming him.

Jesus Before the Council

66 When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. And they led him away to their council, and they said, 67 "If you are the Christ, tell us." But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe, 68 and if I ask you, you will not answer. 69 But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God." 70 So they all said, "Are you the Son of God, then?" And he said to them, "You say that I am." 71 Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips."

Jesus Before Pilate

23 1 Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king." 3 And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." 4 Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man." 5 But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place."

Jesus Before Herod

6 When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. 7 And when he learned that he belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. 8 When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. 9 So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. 10 The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. 11 And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. 12 And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

13 Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, 14 and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man

guilty of any of your charges against him. 15 Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. 16 I will therefore punish and release him.” (17 Now he was obliged to release one man to them at the festival.)

Study Guide

Observation Activity:

- Highlight the questions that Jesus is asked and the accusations made against Him
- Underline Jesus' responses

Group A: What pattern do you notice about the questions and accusations against Jesus? What was the attitude and motives of his accusers?

Group B: What pattern do you notice in the way Jesus responds? Why do you think He does that?

Optional deep dive: Who is the Son of Man? Where else in Luke has Jesus previously preached about His identity as the Son of Man?

Optional deep dive: Jesus says to the council “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer.” Where else in Luke do we see this to be true?

1a. How did the council accuse Jesus before Pilate? Why was it ironic and how did it further demonstrate their hypocrisy (Luke 20:25)?

1b. How did Jesus answer to the council and Pilate? What did it reveal about His identity?

2. As the messianic Son of Man and the Son of God, why did Jesus give them the answer they wanted and allowed them to mock and accuse Him?

3. How does the narrative of Jesus' trial before the council, Pilate and Herod demonstrate the love of God for us?

4. When things are not going according to plan, how might we suppress or manipulate God's Word and character in order to support the narrative that we want to hear?

5a. How might we trivialise what Jesus endured for us when we are confronted with sin, suffering or injustice?

5b. How does considering what He endured for us change the way that we respond to sin, suffering or injustice?