

Journey Through the New Testament

Luke 1-5

Series: Authentically Human

“Lead Us Not into Temptation”

3-10-19

Introduction

The beginning of Luke’s gospel provides a detailed account of Jesus’ birth, connecting Jesus and John the Baptist to the ongoing story of Israel. When John the Baptist was born, his father, Zechariah, prophesied after being unable to speak for many months prior. (His disbelief that his wife Elizabeth would have a son was the reason for his silence.) The prophecy captured the important role that John would have as the forerunner of Jesus and recalled God’s promise of salvation, not only for the Jews but Gentiles as well. Through out the narratives of Jesus’ life and ministry, we see the human struggle of sin and temptation. Even Jesus himself was not exempt from experiencing temptation.

Opening Prayer

O, God, we give you thanks for the gift of forgiveness and salvation made possible through Jesus. Strengthen us to resist temptation and to follow as your disciples. Increase our faith so that we will live according to your kingdom way. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Bible Study Selected verses from Luke 1 – 5 (CEB)

What?

Forgiveness

Luke 1:76-79

1. What role will John the Baptist fulfill?
2. According to these verses, how will salvation be given?

Luke 3:2-6

1. What message did John preach to the people?
2. According to the words of Isaiah the prophet, who would be able to receive salvation?
3. What then, is the relationship between sin, forgiveness and salvation?

Faith

Luke 5:3-11

1. What did the disciples do that demonstrated their faith in Jesus?

Luke 5:17-21

1. What did the friends do that demonstrated their faith?

So What?

Fruit

Luke 3:8 and 6:43-45

1. So, if we have received salvation through repentance and the forgiveness of sin, and are followers of Christ, how will our lives be different?

Luke 6:27-42

1. What specific behaviors/fruit will be seen in us as “children of the Most High?”
2. So, what are the connections between **forgiveness**, **faith** and **fruit**?

Now What?

1. Which of these areas of the spiritual life challenge you the most—
Repenting and asking **forgiveness**?
Stepping out in **faith** to follow Jesus?
Living in a way that shows a change of heart? (**fruit**)
Resisting temptation?
2. What can you do this week to demonstrate your faith and grow in Christlikeness?

Lesson Notes: In Luke 4, Jesus, being fully human, was tempted with food when he was hungry, the kingdoms of the world when he was about to demonstrate God’s kingdom, and scripture itself as he prepared to begin his public ministry. We never come a place where we are free from temptation. But God’s faithful power, presence, and forgiveness are always available to us as we strive for “holiness of heart and life.” (John Wesley)

Closing Reflection

*The Lord is faithful and will give you strength and protect you from the evil one.
May the Lord lead your hearts to express God’ love and Christ’s endurance.*

2 Thessalonians 3:3,5