



**Week of August 8, 2021**

**Lessons in Luke: A Seat for Everyone**

**Luke 14:15-24**

### **Day One: Read Luke 14:15-24**

*<sup>15</sup> Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, “What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet[a] in the Kingdom of God!” <sup>16</sup> Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. <sup>17</sup> When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, ‘Come, the banquet is ready.’ <sup>18</sup> But they all began making excuses. One said, ‘I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.’ <sup>19</sup> Another said, ‘I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.’ <sup>20</sup> Another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’ <sup>21</sup> “The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, ‘Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ <sup>22</sup> After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’ <sup>23</sup> So his master said, ‘Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. <sup>24</sup> For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.’”*

- Jesus tells a parable about the Kingdom of God. As you read the parable, can you list three things that the story teaches about the Kingdom of God and how it differs from the way we usually operate in culture?

### **Day Two: Read Luke 4:16-21**

*<sup>16</sup> When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. <sup>17</sup> The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written: <sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, <sup>19</sup> and that the time of the Lord’s favor has come.” <sup>20</sup> He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to speak to them. “The Scripture you’ve just heard has been fulfilled this very day!”*

- God’s preference for the sick, poor and suffering is a thread woven throughout Luke’s Gospel. As a follower of Jesus, what does that mean for how you live and the decisions you make? What will it mean for you today?

### **Day Three: Read Matthew 28:18-20**

*<sup>18</sup> Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

- What does it mean to “make disciples”? What is one small step you can take today to obey Jesus’ command?

### **Day Four: Read Acts 1:6-8**

*<sup>6</sup> So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

- What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus? Who has been a witness for Jesus to you? What was the impact? To whom can you be a witness today? How?

### **Day Five: Read Mark 16:9-15**

<sup>9</sup> After Jesus rose from the dead early on Sunday morning, the first person who saw him was Mary Magdalene, the woman from whom he had cast out seven demons. <sup>10</sup> She went to the disciples, who were grieving and weeping, and told them what had happened. <sup>11</sup> But when she told them that Jesus was alive and she had seen him, they didn't believe her. <sup>12</sup> Afterward he appeared in a different form to two of his followers who were walking from Jerusalem into the country. <sup>13</sup> They rushed back to tell the others, but no one believed them. <sup>14</sup> Still later he appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating together. He rebuked them for their stubborn unbelief because they refused to believe those who had seen him after he had been raised from the dead. <sup>15</sup> And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."

- What does it mean to "preach the Good News to everyone"? What Good News about Jesus could you share today? With whom?