

Gospel of Luke

House Group Notes for Luke 5:1-11,27-32 based upon sermon series



BISHOP RIDLEY
CHURCH,
THE GREEN,
WELLING,
KENT DA16 2PG

“THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU AND THE POWER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL OVERSHADOW YOU” LUKE 1: 35

Why were the Pharisees listening to Jesus?

The Pharisees were an influential, if not official, body, that had a cause - “The Kingdom of God.” They believed that intensifying observance of the Law would bring about the conditions for God to act and liberate Israel. That wasn’t Jesus’ message!

Can you see the work of the Holy Spirit in this situation?

Luke has told us that the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus (3:22) and that the power of God is upon Jesus (4:14, 36). At the beginning

of the story, Jesus is operating in the gift of teaching. Then there’s the gift of faith (not ‘saving faith’ but the kind of faith where you have a strong conviction that God is going to act) given to those who brought the man for healing. There is the gift of prophetic insight or knowledge that shows Jesus the sin in the paralysed man’s life. The gift of mercy as Jesus forgives him. The gift of discernment of the critical spirit within the teachers of the law. The gift of healing when the man gets up and walks. The result: a miracle!

Who could forgive sins?

For the Pharisees and teachers, the sacrificial system of the Temple was how you were forgiven – the rituals, cleansings, sacrifices, the Day of Atonement, the priests and the high priest. This was how you attained a right relationship with God. Jesus is demonstrating that He, not the Temple, is now the source of relationship with God. What was ascribed to the Temple is now re-ascribed to Him!

Who is the Son of Man?

Daniel 7:13f – one brought forward by God after a period of persecution and given authority over the world. First century Jews associated this text with the hoped for Messiah!

DISCUSS FURTHER

Compare this passage with some of the gifts listed in 1Corinthians 12:1-12. Notice how 1Corinthians 12:13-31 is all about a body needs to work together as an analogy of using the gifts and being church. Do you think today’s individualistic approach to things helps or hinders church and miracles?

LUKE 5:17-26

**Filled with the Holy Spirit
Jesus is teaching and healing
the sick...**

¹⁷ One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick. ¹⁸Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. ²⁰When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." ²¹The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ²²Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ²³Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?" ²⁴ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ²⁵Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶Everyone was

amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

Son of Man in Daniel 7

¹³ "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, [a] coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Knowing Your Spiritual Gifts

Mark Stibbe discusses an experience he had whilst speaking in Finland. He'd taken a team there for a weekend of preaching and ministry. In a big meeting, Stibbe silenced the crowd and asked them if anyone could sense some healing that God might want to do. One of the team members spoke out, "I sense there may be someone here with a problem with their right foot. They have broken it not long ago and it hasn't healed properly. I am fairly confident that the Lord wants to heal it today." Stibbe, asked the crowd a number of times if this was for anyone here. Eventually a reluctant young man, who wasn't even a delegate, raised his hand – he was the sound engineer. The young man shared that he was from the Czech Republic and he'd

broken his right foot the previous year in three places, but that Finnish hospitals had refused to treat him and sent him on an agonizing trip back to the Czech Republic where the operation was botched putting in pins to hold the foot together. He had been an avid long distance runner, but now could not run 12 metres, let alone the daily 12 miles he was used to, without severe pain. After hearing Peter's story, a small Finnish ministry team prayed for him. Towards the end of the meeting, Mark asked the man if he had felt any improvement. The man said not. Mark said he felt a surge of "faith" and prayed again and prophesied that the man would indeed "run and not grow weary." At the next session, the young man came and asked to give his testimony; he had indeed been healed. How did he know, Mark asked? Because I've just run 12 miles to the meeting, he answered. Mark found out afterwards that the breakthrough had occurred when a Finnish pastor's wife had asked the young man forgiveness on behalf of the Finnish people for rejecting him. Just think how many gifts and how many people were involved and what an amazing miracle resulted.

