



Follow Me

ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN



HOME GROUP BIBLE STUDY RESOURCE

Two realities. Two voices. One choice, affirmed daily.

The siren call of the world seeks to distract us from the pursuits God intends for us, urging us to focus only on what we can see and experience. Jesus acknowledges that a person can gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul. He also warns that a person can hear the Good News, only for it to be choked by the worries, riches, and pleasures of this life. The subtle rewiring of our minds is one of Satan's key strategies in his attempt to counterfeit God's Kingdom.

Christians are most vulnerable when their primary exposure is to the voice of culture rather than the voice of their Creator.

In this series from Luke's Gospel, we will explore the contrast between earthly and heavenly pursuits and discover our purpose in the Kingdom of God. Jesus proclaimed that His Kingdom is established through the proclamation of the gospel and the liberation of the oppressed, but He also made it clear that joining His mission is not for the faint-hearted.

It requires daily self-denial and a willingness to step into the pain and mess of the world, boldly declaring, "Jesus is King." Whose voice will you follow?

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:23-27

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Week 1

Luke 9:23-27, Luke 4:18-19, and Luke 8:4-7

Every day we are confronted by two competing voices. The world calls us to pursue comfort, success, wealth and self-fulfilment, while Jesus calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him.

As recorded in Luke's gospel, Jesus warns that the worries, riches and pleasures of this life can choke our faith and distract us from God's kingdom. Throughout this series, we will explore what it means to recognize the voice of our culture, resist its influence, and choose instead to follow the voice of our Creator.

The question that will shape every week is simple: *Whose voice will you follow?*



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 9:23-27, Luke 4:18-19, and Luke 8:4-7.

- In the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:14), Jesus warns about "worries, riches, and pleasures" choking our faith. What might these three things look like in our daily lives?
- Jesus' mission is to bring good news to the poor and free the oppressed (Luke 4:18-19). How does this clash with the world's message to focus on our own comfort and success?
- What makes us hesitant to stand up and declare "Jesus is King" in our schools, workplaces, or friend groups?

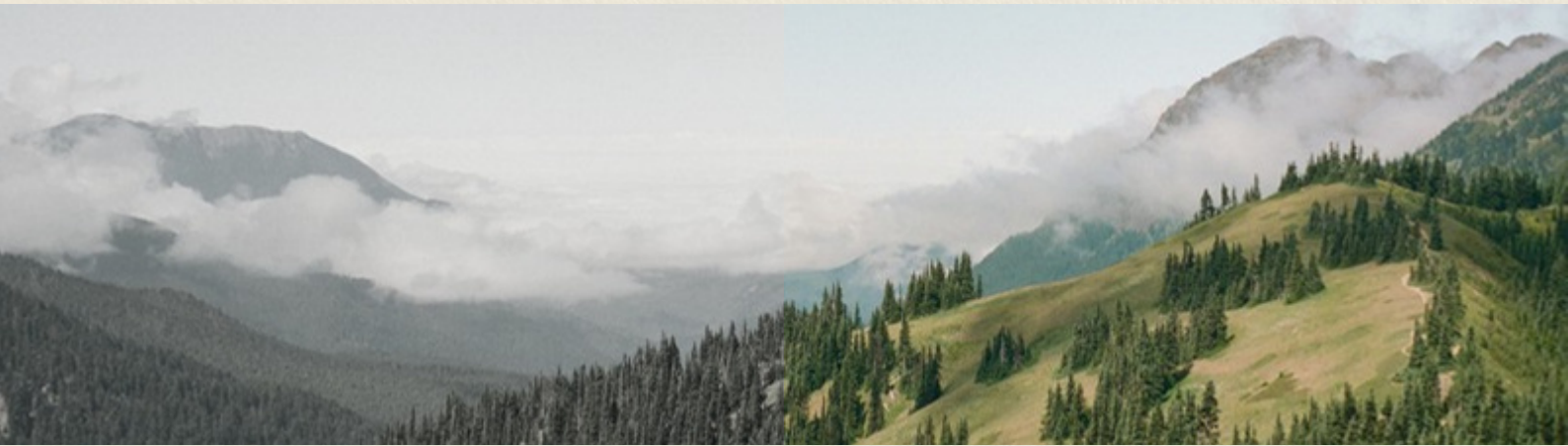
Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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WITHOUT A SAFETY NET



Week 2

Luke 9:57-62

The world tells us to keep our options open, protect ourselves, and always have a backup plan. Yet Jesus calls His followers to wholehearted devotion, refusing to let comfort, security, or even legitimate responsibilities become obstacles to obedience.

As we explore Luke 9:57-62, we will discover that following Jesus means placing Him above every earthly safety net and trusting Him with our future.

Discipleship is not a part-time commitment. It is a daily decision to follow without looking back.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 9:57-62

- The people in this passage have very normal, reasonable excuses. What "safety nets" (like money, career, or comfort) do we feel we must have in place before we can fully commit to Jesus?
- The world tells us to keep our options open and have a backup plan. How does that mindset keep us from following Jesus wholeheartedly?
- What does "looking back" (v. 62) look like for a Christian today? How is our culture pulling us backward?

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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INTO A NEW KINGDOM



Week 3

Luke 14:15-24

God's kingdom operates very differently from the kingdoms of this world. While society often values status, success, and self-interest, Jesus extends His invitation to the overlooked, the broken, and the needy.

In Luke 14:15–24, we see that many people miss God's invitation because they are preoccupied with other priorities.

This week we will consider what keeps us from fully embracing God's kingdom and how we can respond to His gracious invitation with faith and obedience.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 14:15-24

- The guests make excuses using good things: possessions, work, and relationships. How can good, everyday blessings become distractions that choke out God's invitation in our lives?
- The master invites the poor, sick, and lonely to fill his house. How does the world rank people differently, and how can we make sure we aren't excluding the people Jesus invites?
- What is the most common excuse you find yourself making when you are too busy to engage in God's Kingdom mission?

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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INTO A NEW FAMILY



Week 4

Luke 14:25-35, 18:29-30

Following Jesus comes at a cost.

In Luke 14, Jesus uses startling language to show that our allegiance to Him must surpass every other loyalty, even family relationships. Yet He also promises that those who sacrifice for His kingdom will receive far more in return.

This week we will explore what it means to belong to God's family, count the cost of discipleship, and find our identity among God's people rather than in the priorities of the world.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 14:25-35, 18:29-30

- Jesus uses shocking language about "hating" family to show that He must come first. What does he really mean, and why does he use this kind of language?
- The world tells us to "protect yourself and your own first." How does this attitude keep us from laying down our lives for the larger Church family?
- Look at Luke 18:29-30. What does Jesus promise to those who leave things behind for Him? How can our group be a true, supportive family to one another?

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



Follow Me

INTO DEPENDENCE



Week 5

Luke 18:1-8

Our culture celebrates independence, self-sufficiency, and personal strength. Jesus teaches the opposite.

Through the parable of the persistent widow, He calls His followers to pray continually, trust God's justice, and refuse to give up.

In Luke 18:1-8, we are reminded that faith is expressed not through self-reliance but through persistent dependence on God. As disciples, we are invited to bring our needs, hopes, and desires before Him, trusting that He hears and responds.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 18:1-8

- Why does Jesus tell us to be like the persistent widow? What does a lack of prayer say about how much we are relying on ourselves?
- The world says, "Believe in yourself, you've got this!" How does this cultural push for independence choke out our urge to cry out to God for help?
- In verse 8, Jesus asks if He will find faith on earth when He returns. Why does our "instant gratification" culture make it so hard to keep praying when we don't get immediate answers?

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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INTO HUMILITY



Week 6

Luke 18:9-17

The world teaches us to promote ourselves, hide our weaknesses, and prove our worth. Jesus teaches that true greatness is found through humility.

In Luke 18:9–17, the self-righteous Pharisee and the humble tax collector reveal two very different approaches to God.

This week we will explore what it means to come before God with childlike trust, acknowledging our need for His mercy and grace. In God's kingdom, those who humble themselves are the ones He lifts up.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 18:9-17

- Compare the Pharisee and the tax collector. How does comparing ourselves to others choke out true humility and faith?
- Our culture tells us to look perfect, show off, and self-promote. How does this pressure conflict with Jesus' call to be open about our weaknesses and ask for mercy?
- What does it mean to receive the Kingdom of God "like a little child" (v. 16-17)? Why is child-like trust so hard for adults in our performance-driven world?

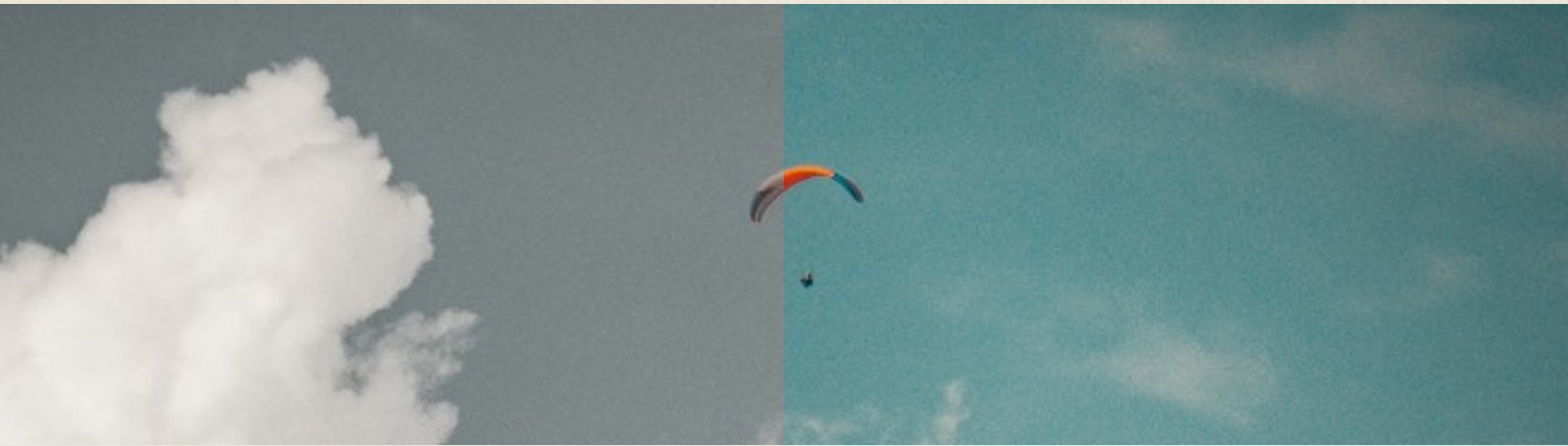
Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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OUT OF A COMFORTABLE LIFE



Week 7

Luke 18:18-30

Comfort and security can quietly become barriers to obedience.

In Luke 18:18–30, a wealthy ruler encounters Jesus but struggles to let go of the things that make his life comfortable. The story challenges us to examine what we value most and whether our possessions have become obstacles to following Christ.

This week we will consider Jesus' call to surrender comfort, trust God with our future, and embrace the greater treasure found in His kingdom.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 18:18-30

- The rich ruler walked away sad because he couldn't give up his wealth. Why are comfort and "stuff" so effective at choking out our obedience to Jesus?
- The world tells us that security is defined by our possessions and material comforts. In what ways has this cultural message made you hesitant to take risks for God?
- Jesus says what is impossible for us is possible with God (v. 27). How can we rely on God's strength to hold our possessions and comforts loosely??

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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OUT OF GREED



Week 8

Luke 12:13-34

The world tells us that more is better and that happiness is found through accumulating wealth and possessions. Jesus warns that greed can take hold of our hearts and distract us from what truly matters.

In Luke 12:13–34, He points His followers away from storing earthly treasures and toward trusting our generous heavenly Father.

This week we will explore how trust in God frees us from worry, cultivates generosity, and helps us seek treasures that last forever.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 12:13-34

- The rich fool's first instinct when he got rich was to "build bigger barns" to store it all. How does the culture's push to accumulate more "toys" choke out our ability to be generous?
- Jesus connects greed directly to worry (v. 22). How does financial anxiety in our culture drive us to hoard things instead of trusting God?
- Jesus tells us the Father is pleased to give us the Kingdom (v. 32). How does knowing God is incredibly generous change the way you view your own money and possessions?

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?



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INTO MISSION



Week 9

Luke 10:25-37

The call of Jesus is not simply to believe in Him but to join Him in His mission.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus shows that loving God is inseparable from loving our neighbour. While the world teaches us to focus on ourselves, Jesus calls us to move toward the needs of others with compassion and sacrifice.

As we conclude this series, we will reflect on what it means to live as citizens of God's kingdom, daily denying ourselves, following Jesus, and participating in His mission to bring good news and restoration to the world.



Intro & Recap

- What has God been saying to you through the passage and the sermon?
- What have you done in response to what you have heard? (Share stories of joining His mission this week e.g. serving, sharing hope, or praying with someone).
- What does it mean to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Read The Passage: Luke 10:25-37

- The priest and the Levite passed by the beaten man, likely because of their busy schedules or safety concerns. What daily distractions or cultural pressures try to choke out your time to care for others?
- The world says, "Look out for number one." How does the Good Samaritan's sacrifice of time, money, and comfort show us what the Kingdom of God looks like?
- After exploring this tension between the world's voice and Jesus' voice over the last 9 weeks, what does "Go and do likewise" mean for you in your context?

Response

- What will you do in response to this passage?
- How can the group keep each other accountable, and how could we pray for each other?

