



## Life is (Doing) Good: Sermon Study Notes

Week of Sunday November 1, 2009

Luke 4:16-21

<sup>16</sup>He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup>The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

<sup>18</sup>"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to preach good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to release the oppressed,  
<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>20</sup>Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, <sup>21</sup>and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

### Footnotes:

[Luke 4:19](#) Isaiah 61:1,2

**Read:** Luke 4:16-21 (check out Isaiah 61:1-2 too)

In this passage Luke gives us his first recording of Jesus' preaching. Commentaries affirm that this passage is central to the entire book of Luke and certainly a central to the work of Jesus as recorded in Luke. Bryan summarized it as the gospel according to Jesus, a gospel that is a whole gospel for the whole person for the whole world.

- What in the passage he reads from Isaiah gives this idea of a whole gospel?
- Who are the objects for the gospel according to Jesus?
- How do you respond to the following comment mentioned in Bryan's sermon:
  - "People are longing for goodness today. They want to do good and have good done for them. But, they are not finding that goodness in Christianity, at least not as they have experienced it...seekers today are not asking if Christianity is true, they are asking if Christianity is good. Like never before we need to show them that Christianity is remarkably good."
- How have you or can you share the whole gospel of Jesus Christ expressing truth and action in words and deeds?
- What might you specifically do this coming week to do good for others?
- Spend some time in prayer, even celebrating communion together, as you commit to sharing the whole gospel, for the whole person, for the whole world.