



## Week 7: Luke 9-16

### Study Guide for the week of Feb. 9-15

#### Personal reflection / journaling exercise

This week, reflect upon Luke 9:10-17.

Jewish tradition held that when Messiah came, the manna from heaven that God sent during the Israelite's 40 years of wandering in the wilderness would return. This feeding miracle was another clue that pointed to Jesus as Messiah.

Notice especially Jesus' actions in verse 16. Here we can find echoes of the Last Supper Jesus celebrated with his disciples and the Lord's Supper we celebrate today. Notice the four actions Jesus connected with the bread and fish: he took, blessed, broke, and gave.

How do these four actions mirror Jesus' life? How are these actions mirrored in your own life? When has God taken/chosen you? When has God blessed you? When have you been broken by God? When has God given you to be used in serving others?

The next time you participate in the Lord's Supper, reflect on the actions: take, break, bless, give.

#### Discussion starters

1. Are you someone who writes out a to-do list every day? How do you feel when your schedule is interrupted by someone in need? By someone or something you enjoy? Reread Luke 9:10-11. How did Jesus respond to interruptions?
2. What does it mean to take up your cross and follow Jesus (Luke 9:23)? Whose agenda are you to follow, yours or God's? How often are you to take up your cross? Is your relationship with God meant to be seen in terms of what is in it for you, how you can use God, or how God can use you?
3. Reread Luke 10:1-12. What is Jesus' first instruction to his disciples (v 2)? What is this prayer supposed to be focused on? Is it surprising that the disciples are to pray for workers before even beginning the work? Why do you think Jesus ordered his instructions this way?
4. In Luke 11:23 and 12:51, Jesus teaches that people cannot remain neutral or indifferent to his message. Read Rev 3:14-16. Do you know people who are cold to the message of Jesus? Hot? Lukewarm? Why is being lukewarm such a problem? How would you characterize yourself?
5. Reread Luke 12:11-12. Do these verses change how you view being asked about your faith? Does this mean you don't need to study and learn about God? How long did Jesus spend teaching his disciples? Remember, the more you know about God, the more material the Holy Spirit has to work with!
6. Luke chapter 15 is the story of the three "lost" – the lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son. Do you know someone lost because of their own foolishness, like the sheep? Do you know someone lost because of circumstances beyond their control, like the coin? Do you know someone lost because of their own selfishness and deliberate choice, like the son? Does God distinguish between the sheep, coin, and son when deciding whether to seek them? Does God's reaction to finding the coin differ from finding the sheep? The son?

#### Bible verse to memorize: Luke 9:23