

Connecting Through the Word

Jesus, The Perfect Son of Man

Luke 1-9

Have You Lost Jesus

Luke 2:39-52

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³⁹ *So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth.*

⁴⁰ *And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.*

⁴¹ *His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.*

⁴² *And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast.*

⁴³ *When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it;*

⁴⁴ *but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances.*

⁴⁵ *So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him.*

⁴⁶ *Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.*

⁴⁷ *And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.*

⁴⁸ *So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously."*

⁴⁹ *And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"*

⁵⁰ *But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.*

⁵¹ *Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and*

was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.

⁵² *And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.*

Have you ever lost a child? Have you ever lost a child and didn't even realize it? We did. In Stephens City when Stephen was about 5 years old.

Walked to Seven-Eleven Store about half mile away.

When he was 7 Left him at a house in country we were building....

Mary and Joseph lost Jesus and took three days to find Him.

We will come back to this passage after we do an introduction to the Gospel of Luke.

Even though the writer of this Gospel does not identify himself, there is much **historical** evidence that he is Luke.

He is said to be from **Antioch** in Syria and probably was a **Greek**. He is the only **Gentile** writer in the Bible.

He also penned the book of **Acts**.

He is responsible for writing 28 percent of the New Testament, more material than any other writer and yet not once did he include his **name** in his work.

Luke is only named **three** times in the New Testament:

Colossians 4:14

Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.

2 Timothy 4:11

Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.

Philemon 1:23-24

Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.

Because of the “**us**” and “**we**” sections in Acts, it is obvious that Luke accompanied Paul on his second and third missionary journeys and also on his final trip to Rome for imprisonment.

Acts 16:10-12

*Now after he had seen the vision, immediately **we** sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had **called us** to preach the gospel to them. Therefore, sailing from Troas, **we** ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And **we** were staying in that city for some days.*

Luke was the first “**medical**” missionary!

He begins his book with detailed accounts of the **births** of two important babies. He emphasized Christ’s sympathy for hurting people. He wrote with the **mind** of a careful historian and with the **heart** of a loving physician.

By the time Luke pens this Gospel **many** other books about the life of Christ had been written. But they all couldn’t be trusted so Luke writes his Gospel so that his readers might have an **accurate** and orderly narrative of the life, ministry, and message of Jesus Christ.

Luke 1:1-4

Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent

Theophilus, that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.

Luke had carefully **researched** his material, interviewed eyewitnesses, and listened to those who had ministered the Word.

No doubt, Luke interviewed Mary the mother of Jesus about the details of Jesus birth and early years.

Luke 2:19

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Luke 2:51

Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart.

Most importantly, he had the guidance of the **Holy Spirit**.

This Gospel was written for **Theophilus** (lover of God), probably a Roman official who had trusted Christ and now needed to be established in the faith.

The two major themes of the book are the humanity of Jesus Christ and His love for people.

Luke presents Jesus Christ as the compassionate **Son of Man**, who came to live among sinners, love them, help them, and die for them.

The genealogy in Luke is that of **Mary**, whereas the genealogy in Matthew is that of **Joseph**.

Matthew 1:6

And Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah.

Luke 3:31

The son of Melea, the son of Menan, the son of Mattathah, the son of Nathan, the son of David,

Luke is a book with good news for everyone.

The **key** message is:

*“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was **lost**.” (Luke 19:10)*

This verse provides one approach to study this book:

The Son of Man **Comes**: (1:1-4:13)

From the Nativity through Jesus’ wilderness temptation.

The Son of Man **Seeks**: (4:14:-21:38)

From Jesus’ first public appearance to His ministry in Galilee and final trip to Jerusalem.

The Son of Man **Saves**: (22-24)

From the last supper through His post resurrection appearances.

Another verse that could be used to outline the book of Luke is 24:19b-20)

¹⁹And He said to them, “What things?”

So they said to Him, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him.

Jesus the **Nazarene** Appears (1:1-4:13)

The Explanation (1:1-4)

The Annunciations (1:5-2:38)

The Preparation (2:39-49)

The Anticipation (3:3-6)

The Validation (3:21-22)

The Documentation (3:23-38)

The Temptation (4:1-13)

Jesus Is “Mighty in **Deed**” (4:14-9:50)

He exhibited His mighty power by performing 18 miracles.

Jesus Is “Mighty in **Word**” (9:51-21:38)

He Illustrated His message and mission through the employment of 25 parables.

Jesus is **Crucified** and Resurrected (22-24)

Luke also emphasizes the humanity of Christ by noting His many **prayers**.

His **Personal** Prayers – Jesus Prayed:

At His baptism (3:21)

In the wilderness (5:16)

Before choosing the Twelve (6:12)

Prior to hearing Peter’s great confession (9:18)

During His transfiguration (9:29)

After hearing the report of the Seventy (10:21-22)

Before giving the model prayer (11:1)

In the upper room for Peter (22:31-32)

In the garden (22:41-44)

On the cross (23:34, 36)

His **Pattern** Prayer (11:2-4)

His **Points** on Prayer (6:27-28; 11:9-10; 18:1; 21:36; 22:40)

Have you lost Jesus?

Luke 2:43-46

⁴³ When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it;

⁴⁴ but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day’s journey, and sought Him among their relatives and

acquaintances.

⁴⁵ *So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him.*

⁴⁶ *Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.*

First, you can't lose something you never had.

The reason many can't find Jesus in their lives, they never really had Him in their lives!

1 John 5:11-13

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

How did Mary lose Jesus?

She got distracted with her friends on the journey home.
She was careless in checking to see if Jesus was with them.
She was excited about the experience she had in Jerusalem at Passover.

“She supposed...”

She took it for granted that He was with them.

How can you lose the presence of Jesus in your life?

Get distracted with the excitement and details of the journey.
The journey of the Christian life.
Reading your Bible
Praying
Studying the Bible
Your devotional time

Going to church
Serving in the church
Going on a mission trip

Get distracted with your friends and relationships
Trying to please them more than please the Lord.

Start skipping times of devotions, worship and service.

Grieve the Holy Spirit with disobedience

Ephesians 4:30

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

1 Thessalonians 5:19

Do not quench the Spirit.

Allow unconfessed sin to remain in your life.

1 John 1:6-10

⁶ *If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.*

⁷ *But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

⁸ *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

⁹ *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

¹⁰ *If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

It took only one day to lose Jesus, but it took three days to find Him!

⁴⁶ *Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple,...*

How Do You Find Jesus?

Admit you have lost Him!

Be willing to change the direction you're going.

Be willing to leave the comfort of the crowd.

Get alone!

You will usually find Jesus where you lost Him!

The point of disobedience.

You will find Jesus doing His Father's business.

The Father's business of seeking and saving the lost.

Get involved in leading others to Christ.

Look for Jesus in the Word of God.

Look for Jesus in the circumstances of life!

You will find Jesus when you have sought for Him with all your heart!

Jeremiah 29:11-14

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; ..."