

Good Tidings of Great Joy

Studies in the Gospel of Luke

The Ministry Begins

Luke 4:14-5:16
Lesson 5

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
February 1, 2015

Gospel of Luke – Outline

1. Prologue (1:1-4)
2. The Preparation for Jesus' Ministry (1:5-4:13)
3. The Ministry in Galilee (4:14-9:50)
4. The Judean/Perean Ministry (9:51-19:27)
5. The Ministry in Jerusalem (19:28-21:38)
6. The Consummation of His Work (22:1-24:53)

Prologue and Preparation (1:1-4:13)

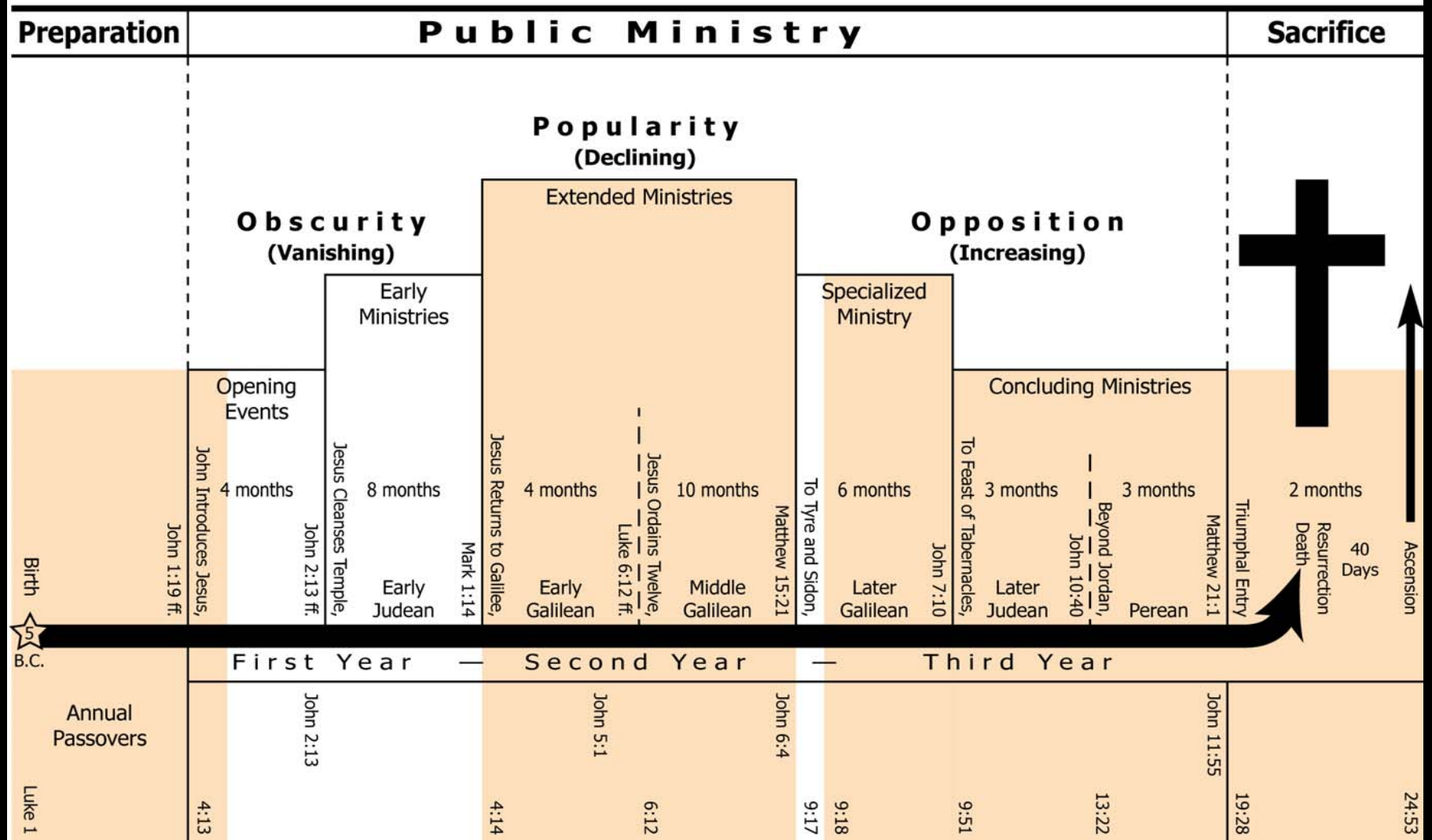
- ▶ An account of things accomplished among us
- ▶ The Promise to Abraham – blessing (spiritual)
- ▶ The God-man – Jesus Christ
- ▶ The Savior Redeemer . . . of the world
- ▶ Glory to God and peace to men
- ▶ The suffering Savior
- ▶ Anointed with the Holy Spirit and approved of God
- ▶ Engaging the devil
- ▶ Doing His Father's business

The Ministry in Galilee (4:14-9:50)

- ▶ Return to Galilee (4:14-15)
- ▶ Nazareth (4:16-30)
- ▶ Capernaum (4:31-41)
- ▶ Galilee (4:42-5:16)

The Life of Christ

Showing coverage by Luke (shaded)



The Return to Galilee

- ▶ Matthew 4:12-17 (Mark 1:14-15) – arrest of John
- ▶ Old Testament prophecy (Isaiah 9:1-2)
- ▶ In the power of the Spirit
- ▶ Teaching in the synagogues of Galilee
 - Matthew 4:23
 - Luke 4:15; 4:22; 4:32
- ▶ No discourses until Luke 6
- ▶ Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah

Nazareth (4:16-30)

- ▶ Out of chronological order (Matt 13:53-58; Mark 6:1-6)
- ▶ Jesus went to the synagogue as was His custom (4:16)
- ▶ Presumed order of synagogue service
 - Thanksgiving and blessing with the “shema”
 - Prayer
 - Reading from Pentateuch – stand to read
 - Reading from Prophets – stand to read
 - Sermon – sit to speak
 - Benediction

Isaiah 61:1-2

- ▶ Deliverance from Babylon, Christ's day, Eternal kingdom
- ▶ Preach the Gospel to the poor
 - Isaiah 66:2 “. . . humble . . . crushed in spirit . . . trembles at My Word.”
- ▶ Captives released – those in exile for sin
- ▶ Recovery of sight to the blind (“opening to those bound”)
- ▶ Free the oppressed – Isaiah 58:6
- ▶ Acceptable year of the LORD – year of God's favor
- ▶ NOT – the day of vengeance of our God
- ▶ Messiah is speaking in Isaiah . . . and in Nazareth

Response in Nazareth

- ▶ Is this Joseph's son?
 - Faithless eyes
- ▶ Physician heal yourself
 - Demand for signs
 - Pride
- ▶ No prophet is welcome in his hometown

History repeats itself

- ▶ Elijah and the widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon
- ▶ Elisha and Naaman the Syrian
- ▶ God bypassed Israel, and blessed strangers
- ▶ Nazareth, a type of the nation
- ▶ A demand for signs – Luke 11:16; 23:35 – Luke 16:31
- ▶ No faith – Matthew 13:58; Mark 6:5
- ▶ Great anger – attempt to kill

Capernaum (4:31-41)

- ▶ Teaching on the Sabbath in the synagogue
- ▶ Demon possessed man – evil spirit cried out
- ▶ Intent – not promote faith or draw people to Christ
- ▶ Accurate description of Christ and His work (1 John 3:8)
 - Not the basis for faith but foundation for future deception
 - The Holy One of God (John 6:69) – confessed because He alone had the “words of eternal life”
- ▶ Jesus authority over powers of hell by His Word

Jesus at Peter's house (4:38-41)

- ▶ Peter's mother-in-law suffered from a high fever
- ▶ Jesus rebuked the fever (cf. unclean spirit in :35)
- ▶ The power of the Creator
- ▶ Inanimate creation does His bidding
- ▶ She was normal immediately
- ▶ Healing and casting out demons after Sabbath

Preaching the Kingdom of God (4:42-44)

- ▶ God's kingship, rule or recognized sovereignty
- ▶ "The kingdom is simply that which the Almighty designs to have accomplished as *the grand result* of the Divine economy." Peters (Vol. 1, p. 70)
- ▶ The Kingdom is the consolation of Israel and the hope of Gentiles
- ▶ Completion of the work of redemption in man and all creation
 - Complete salvation – spiritual and material (Luke 18:24)
 - The Kingdom is entered by justification by faith in Jesus Christ.
 - New heaven and earth "wherein dwells righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13)

J.C. RYLE

Let us beware of despising preaching. In every age of the Church, it has been God's principal instrument for the awakening of sinners and the edifying of saints. The days when there has been little or no preaching have been days when there has been little or no good done in the Church . . . No less, let us pray daily for a continual supply of faithful preachers of God's word.

Galilee (5:1-16)

- ▶ A fishing miracle (5:1-11)
- ▶ Teaching
- ▶ Jesus gave fishing instructions and Peter obeyed

LENSKI, R. C. H. (1961)

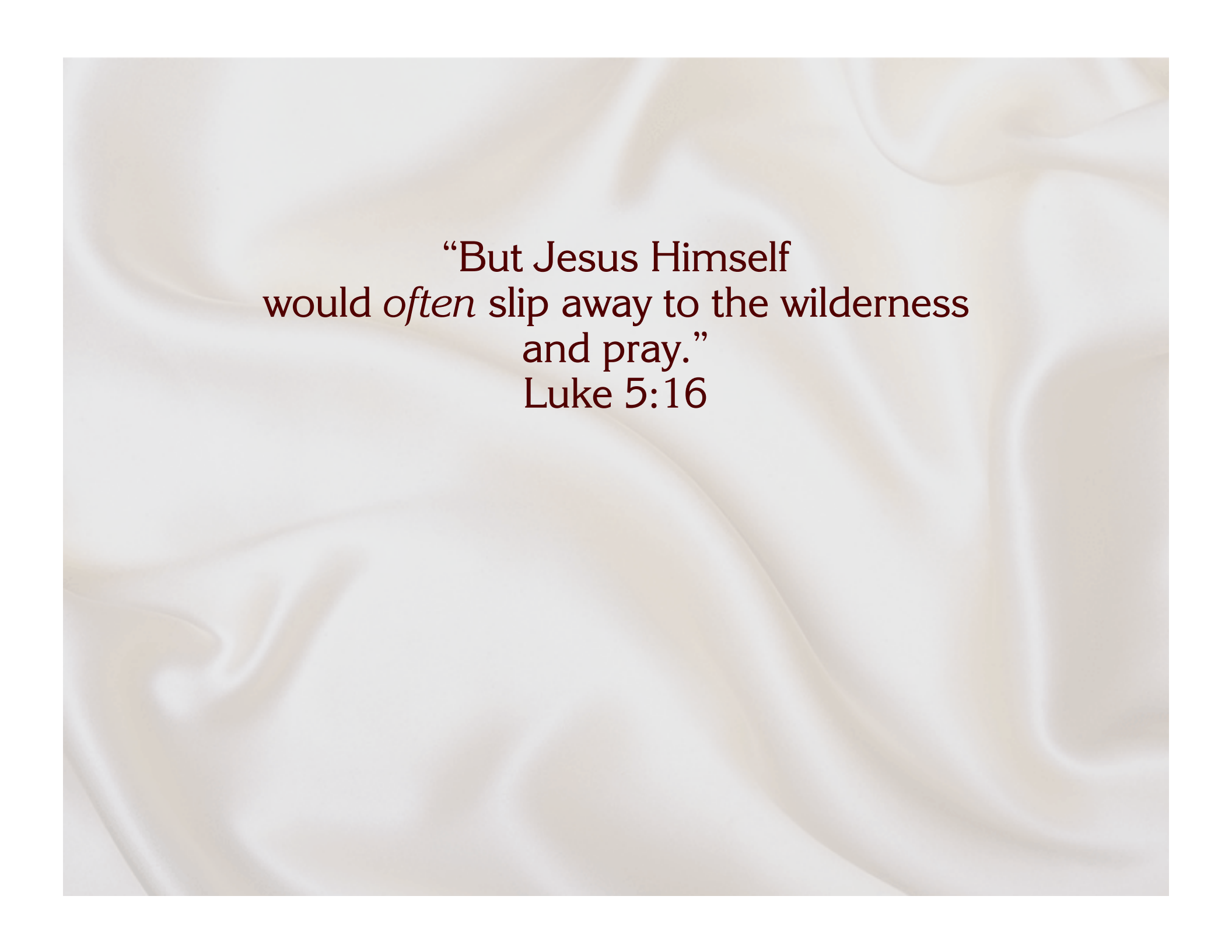
Any deviation from the Lord's utterance in word or in action is fatal to success. Improve on his Word, and you fail. Say that Jesus would today modify his utterance, and you are trying to justify your deviation from it.

The fishing miracle (5:1-11)

- ▶ Massive catch
 - Nets broken
 - Partners called to help and both boats started to sink
- ▶ Peter's reaction – Recognize the holiness of the LORD
- ▶ Recognize his own unworthiness of the least of His blessings
 - “One reason why it is hard for us to understand the reaction of Peter is that we ourselves, in our own hearts and consciences, have perhaps never come to anything like Peter's realization of our utter sinfulness.” Lenski, R. C. H. (1961)
- ▶ Fear not the holiness of God – Trust Jesus for safety from wrath
- ▶ A new fishing career: “Catch” means “catch alive”
- ▶ They left all and followed Jesus

A leper is healed (5:12-16)

- ▶ Extensive leprosy - “covered with leprosy”
- ▶ Remarkable faith:
 - “Lord, if you are willing, You can make me clean”
 - More than faith in Jesus’ ability to heal
 - Trust in Jesus wisdom to heal or not heal
 - 1 Peter 4:19 – Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.”
- ▶ No distinction between Jesus’ willingness and His ability in response to faith
- ▶ Immediate healing – same as Peter’s mother-in-law.
- ▶ A surprise for the priest (Leviticus 14)



“But Jesus Himself
would *often* slip away to the wilderness
and pray.”
Luke 5:16

The Ministry Begins

- ▶ Jesus of Nazareth came
 - “. . . no beauty that we should desire Him” (Isaiah 53:2-3)
 - “Veiled in flesh” (“Hark, the herald angels sing”)
- ▶ Jesus came preaching the Kingdom of God
 - Faith comes by hearing the Word (Romans 10:17)
 - Jesus, the God-man, approved of the Father and filled with the Holy Spirit came preaching and praying