

Synod Conversation with uke

Reading Schedule – Part 2

Chapter 6	February 10-16 February 17-23	(Luke 6:1-26) (Luke 6:27-49)
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Read through the whole Gospel: February 24-March 2

Chapter 7	March 3-9 March 10-16	(Luke 7:1-23) (Luke 7:24-50)
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Chapter 8	March 17-23 March 24-30	(Luke 8:1-25) (Luke 8:26-56)
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Chapter 9	March 31-April 6 April 7-13	(Luke 9:1-27) (Luke 9:28-62)
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Chapter 10	April 14-20 April 21-27	(Luke 10:1-20) (Luke 10:21-42)
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Sample Questions that could be used every week:

- What caught your eye or your ear?
- Did you notice or hear anything new?
- Are there any words or phrases in this text that are very familiar to you?
- Were you reminded of a hymn by these words?
- Did anything here make you feel joyful or sad or angry or confused? Why?
- How does this text shape your life?

Weekly Questions for Adult, Youth, & Child Readers:

Chapter 6

Luke 6:1-26

- **Adults:** Jesus made the religious leaders of his day very unhappy because of the things he did on the Sabbath. (See vv. 1, and 10) What, exactly, caused them to be “filled with fury” (v. 11), do you think?
- **Adults:** Jesus mentions “prophets” (v. 23) and “false prophets” (v. 26) in Luke’s beatitudes and woes. What do you think distinguishes a true prophet from a false one? Does it have something to do with saying things just to make people feel good about themselves? Or is there more to it than that?
- **Youth:** What did it mean under Judaic law to keep the Sabbath? How did Jesus redefine that? What does it mean to keep the Sabbath as Christian today? How do you keep the Sabbath?
- **Children:** What two things did Jesus do that helped others but broke the rules?

Luke 6:27-49

- **Adults:** Does it surprise you to hear Jesus say that God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked? (v. 35) What examples might you think of that demonstrate God’s kindness to ungrateful and wicked people?
- **Adults:** Verses 47-49 contain a familiar parable about building. You may even know a song about these verses. Reading v. 47 again, do you see Jesus identifying three things – the rock, the foundation, and the building – and then connecting them to three things in his phrase, “who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them”? Is your pattern of life reflected in any way here?
- **Youth:** The church has taught for thousands of years that “to turn the other cheek” (Luke 6:29-29 and Mathew 5:39-41) means a form of non-passive resistance. In “Jesus’ third way” pages 98-111 by Walter Wink a very deferent interruption is given. Which interpretation feels right to you, and why?
<https://cpt.org/files/BN%20-%20Jesus'%20Third%20Way.pdf>
- **Children:** In the second half of chapter Jesus teaches use parables and comparison. Sometimes these hard to understand even for adults and big kids. In these many comparisons Jesus is trying to teach a few simple lesson you probably already know.
 - How should you treat others?
 - Should treat all people with love, respect, and kindness?
 - What if you do like them?
 - What if you do know them?
 - When we don’t teat others with love, respect, and kindness what happens to us and everyone else?

Chapter 7

Luke 7:1-23

- **Adults:** Do you hear echoes of Mary's song (1:46-55) in what the people say in verse 16? Do you hear echoes of the angels' song (2:14) here? Do you think Luke did this on purpose? Why or why not?
- **Adults:** Hold together the story of the healing of the centurion's slave (vv. 1-10) with the story of John the Baptist sending messengers to Jesus (vv. 18-23). What do you find that is similar? What is different?
- **Youth:** Seeing is believing! The John the Baptist, the disciples, and the crowds all want to proof of who Jesus is and we still do today. How has the "seeing is believing" or need for proof effaced your faith life? How did it play out in Luke 7:18-34.
- **Children:** In Luke 7:1-34 list as many signs or miracles you can find? Why did Jesus do so many?

Luke 7:24-50

- **Adults:** After reading the story in verses 36-50, think about your own life. Do you feel you have been forgiven much or little? Do you identify more with the Pharisee or the sinful woman? Why is that? And how does that show up in your pattern of life?
- **Adults:** In verses 31-35, Jesus suggests that people who easily find fault in others are like spoiled children. Do you think God can be glorified equally well by a life of restraint such as John led and by a life of freedom such as Jesus led? Are both ways of life vindicated by wisdom? Or is one way of life better?
- **Youth:** "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Luke 7:50 In both story we hear of two act of great love, but in the end is the acts themselves or love that has forgiven these people? Why do you feel the way you feel?
- **Children:** How did the woman in the story show great love? How can we show great love like that today?

Chapter 8

Luke 8:1-25

- **Adults:** Read verse 3 again carefully. Did you already know that it was women who funded Jesus' ministry? If this realization is new to you, does that make you think of Church in a different way?
- **Adults:** In verse 18, Jesus teaches us to pay attention to how we ... listen. Really? How we *listen*? Not how we *act*? How do you make sense of that?
- **Youth:** We read that Jesus had women that accompanied him as disciples as well as men; that might not be shocking today but over 2000 years ago in Palestine it would have not just been shocking but illegal. Look at your church today who is missing? Why are they missing? Who would looking shocking in the pew next to you? Based on the text would Jesus welcome them? How can we?
- **Children:** Everyone gets scared big kids, adults, teenagers, and even disciples of Jesus. What things scare you? How does knowing God is with you and you are never alone change that? What are something you can do to remember God is there when you get scared?

Luke 8:26-56

- **Adults:** The people of the Gerasenes (v. 26) seem prone to living in fear. (vv. 35 and 37) Do you imagine that the preaching of the man formerly possessed by a legion of demons helped to free his neighbors from their fears?
- **Adults:** A chiasm is a literary structure found throughout the New Testament. It is a way of telling a story that repeats themes or holds them in tension with their opposites in such a way that these themes seem to cross over each other. It is that crossing over one another that results in the name "chiasm," for the shape of the Greek letter chi – χ . Read through the two stories in vv. 40-56 and look for how these themes appear and cross over each other:
 - fall down (v. 41) – daughter (v. 42) – 12 year-old girl (v. 42)
 - sick for 12 years (v. 43) – "Daughter" (v. 48) – get up (v. 54)Do you see any other themes that cross over each other in these stories? What is the purpose, do you think, of blending two stories together so tightly under the sign of the cross?
- **Youth:** The woman had such faith that by touching the fabric of Jesus's clothing she was healed. What would it look like to have faith like the woman in the story?
- **Children:** What 3 miracles did Jesus perform in that last half of chapter 8.

Chapter 9

Luke 9:1-27

- **Adults:** Have you ever noticed that the language Jesus uses around the bread in the story of the feeding of the five thousand (v. 16) is exactly like the language we use around the bread in the sacrament of the Eucharist? Why might that be?
- **Adults:** Jesus does not say things lightly. What might he mean when he says (v. 27) that some standing there will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God? What is the kingdom of God? And how can it be seen by those living still in this life?
- **Youth:** In the story we are told that there were 5,000 men, but the story does not count women and children. Why did the story of the feeding only count men? Assuming the women and children ate how many were feed? What does the word Transfiguration mean? What are other words that share the same prefix? How do these words relate to your experiences with faith, the bible, and church?
- **Children:** Jesus looked up at heaven and blessed the bread and broke and gave it to all to eat, can you think of other times in the bible this happens? Name as many as you can.

Luke 9:28-62

- **Adults:** This chapter is absolutely filled with Elijah. Herod talks about him (vv. 7-9); the disciples talk about him (v. 19); Jesus talks with him on the Mount of Transfiguration (v. 30); and some ancient authorities include his name at the end of verse 54! (Your Bible may indicate this in a footnote.) What is it about Elijah that he keeps “coming back from the dead” in this chapter? (Consider Malachi 3:1 and 4:5)
- **Adults:** Might the urgent situations and teachings of Jesus in verses 51-62 be “an opportune time” when the devil showed up again to try to derail Jesus’ mission? Verse 51 sounds a note of renewed purpose for Jesus. Do you find that challenges like this show up in your life just when you begin to pursue your own purpose with renewed vigor?
- **Youth:** In 46 – 50 we hear of 2 ways the disciples let their own self-importance get in the way of doing goods work. What 2 ways did this happen and how do you see this happening today?
- **Children:** Sometimes it’s hard to fallow someone or something even Jesus. When you try to fallow someone what distracts you? How did Jesus say people could be distracted from fallowing him?

Chapter 10

Luke 10:1-20

- **Adults:** Jesus sent the seventy out in pairs ahead of where he intended to go (v. 1). Why do you suppose he did that?
- **Adults:** The seventy are triumphant when they return. (v. 17) Jesus declares to them that “nothing will hurt you.” (v. 19) But he also said that he was sending them out “like lambs into the midst of wolves.” (v. 3) Is a life of discipleship a life immune from harm, or a life constantly in peril? What does your life of discipleship feel like to you? Can it be both?
- **Youth:** Jesus often uses farming metaphors, it was one of the most common occupations of the time, but for most teens and young adults to they are hard to understand and irrelevant. Rewrite the works to the harvest metaphor using a more relevant example.
- **Children:** Have you ever gone a trip? If so what do you pack? In the reading Jesus sent out seventy to go out on trips what did he tell them to pack? Compare the list what is different and what is the same on your list.

Luke 10:21-42

- **Adults:** The familiar story of Mary and Martha includes Mary’s intentional act of listening. How might this story illuminate Jesus’ teaching in 8:18?
- **Adults:** Verses 21-22 describe an extraordinary occasion in which Jesus “rejoiced in the Holy Spirit,” an event the seventy got to see (v. 23). How do you picture this? Was this event in any way like the Transfiguration? (9:28-36) Was it like the angel choir of Luke 2:13-14? Or like the heavenly rejoicing Jesus talks about in 15:7 and 10?
- **Youth:** Go beyond the answer in text. Who was the neighbor to man how feel in the ditch and why?
- **Children:** Who do you think was the better host to Jesus, Mary or Martha and why?