

Study of Luke Ch. 4

A Demon and Mother-in-Law

Opening

Pray. *You start off with prayer. Ask for God to be in your conversation and to increase faith through this time.*

Who is someone you look up to? Why do you look up to them?

Name a time that you had to lead something. What did you lead? How did it go? What was difficult?

Study

As we walk through Luke, Jesus' ministry is off to a rocky start. He was loved for the wrong reasons. When He spoke the truth, people wanted to harm Him. Many people would feel discouraged at this point. Jesus continues on His journey through Galilee to Capernaum.

Luke continues to establish the authority of Jesus as he recounts these narratives for us. Authority is the power to accomplish something given by a higher authority. Authority is always given and not assumed. Authority can come with a position but will not take you far alone. God gives us His authority to serve in the Kingdom of God. What does that authority look like?

Who are some people of authority? How do they use their authority? Do they use it well or poorly?

Read [Luke 4:31-44](#).

Oftentimes we rely on words to carry out authority but actions are just as important. What messages did Jesus give through His actions?

Luke could have shared many other events of Jesus' life. Instead, he shares these events. What is Luke trying to help his readers understand about Jesus?

What specifically did Jesus use His authority to do in these accounts (vs. 33-35; 39; and 40-41)?

How did Jesus' use of authority impact other peoples' lives? Did it add to His authority in peoples' lives or take away? Why?

Why did Jesus keep the demons from speaking? Wouldn't He want everyone to know that He was the Son of God?

The following day, Jesus went off to pray and the crowds went to Him. They wanted Jesus to continue to heal their loved ones. Why didn't Jesus heal all of them (v. 43)?

How would you have felt if you had been one of those people? Do people struggle with this today where loved ones stay sick or die while other people's loved ones are healed? What does this teach us about people and sickness today?

Mark of a Disciple: Live with humble authority

Jesus is the perfect example of authority in leadership. Oftentimes our views on authority are skewed by poor leaders who use it selfishly. Other times we skew that view because we don't want anyone to have authority over us. The fact is, we have no authority except for what has been given to us.

Here is an example. Why do you engage in the Bible studies written by me? I have been given authority by God in this Call true, but you have also given authority to me to speak into your life. For me to expect you to listen and do based on this position or the assumption of my own established authority is arrogance.

Read [Matthew 28:18-20](#).

What authority has God placed in you? How have you been using this authority? What keeps you from using that authority correctly?

What would help you to step into that role? Together, write out specific steps that will help you step into that role. Find the people, information, or opportunities that you need to begin using your authority to make disciples. If you need more help, know that your parents, the pastors, or I am here to help you!

Prayer Time

Take prayer requests. Have everyone write them down so that each day you may pray for one another. Then, pray for each other before you close.

Are there any fears or concerns around the pandemic? Please be sensitive to each other and listen. Respond with encouragement from God's Word.