

## **Through The Bible: Luke 8 - 18 - Presentation Notes**

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*(See separate documents for presentation slides and class handout)*

# **Class Outline**

- I. OVERVIEW & CONTEXT**
- II. THE FATHER**
- III. PARABLES**
- IV. HEALING AND DELIVERANCE**
- V. FOLLOWING JESUS**
- VI. MARY & MARTHA**

### **MAIN REFERENCES:**

IPV Bible Background Commentary: New Testament by Craig S. Keener

The Bible Project Website/YouTube channel

The Father Loves You – An initiation to perfect love by Ed Piorek

Scripture references are in the CSB unless otherwise noted

## **OVERVIEW & CONTEXT**

- Author
- Context
- Key Themes/Message
- Structure

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**Lord, please give us eyes to see and ears to hear you as we meet here today. Give us the mind of Christ and wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of you. Draw us near to you, Father.**

**Amen**

### **The Big Idea**

Jesus was not the King Israel expected. He suffered and died to save humanity, showing that true power is found in love. Jesus calls his followers to expand his Kingdom and invite all people into God's Kingdom family.

## **Who Wrote the Book of Luke?**

Christian tradition holds that Luke, a first-century C.E. historian, physician, and disciple of Jesus, is the author of this compilation of stories and eyewitness accounts of the life of Jesus.

## **Context**

The events described in Luke take place in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the surrounding occupied lands of the Greco-Roman Empire during the early 1st century, between 10 B.C.E and 40 C.E. Luke was likely composed between 60 and 80 C.E.

## **Key Themes**

- The upside-down Kingdom of God
- Israel's freedom and new covenant
- God's faithfulness to his people seen in his human incarnation

## **Structure**

Luke is divided into four parts. 1-2 introduce Jesus and John the Baptist. 3:1-9:50 detail the upside-down Kingdom of God. 9:51-19:27 focus on Jesus' inclusion of outsiders. And 19:28-24:53 conclude with Jesus' persecution, crucifixion, and resurrection.

Luke 1-2: The Birth of Jesus and John the Baptist

Luke 3:1-9:50: Jesus and the Upside-Down Kingdom of God

Luke 9:51-19:27: Jesus' Inclusion of Outsiders Scandalizes Leaders

Luke 19:28-24:53: Confrontation, Crucifixion, and Resurrection

## **THE FATHER**

1. The Father Reveals The Son (Luke 9:34-35)
2. The Son Reveals The Father (Luke 10:21-23)
3. How to Pray – To the Father (Luke 11:2-4)
4. The Father gives Good Gifts, especially the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)
5. The Cure for Anxiety & The Father's Delight (Luke 12:22-32)
6. The Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-31)

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## **INTRODUCTION**

When I realized how much of this portion of Luke helps to reveal the **characteristics of The Father** and who God wants to be for us in this role, I felt led to have us focus on these portions of scripture first.

This is also in part because of my own story and healing, and some things God's been showing me lately about who He is as my Heavenly Father. He's been teaching me that I'm Orphan but a daughter of God.

As we go through these passages, I pray that we will have a **deeper understanding of who our Father God is**, and how to **heal the orphaned parts of our hearts**. **May the truth of His Word set you free!**

### **1. The Father Reveals The Son (Luke 9:34-35)**

**Bible Verses:** *"While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them. They became afraid as the cloud covered them. Then a voice came from the cloud, saying: 'This is my Son, the Chosen One; listen to him!'" (Luke 9:34-35, CSB)*

During the Transfiguration, God the Father reveals Jesus as His beloved Son and commands the disciples to listen to Him. The voice from the cloud affirms Jesus' divine identity and authority, highlighting that He is the Chosen One—the Messiah.

**Application:** LISTEN to Jesus and prioritize His voice over all others in our lives.

### **2. The Son Reveals The Father (Luke 10:21-23)**

**Bible Verses:** *"At that time Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, 'I praise You, **Father**, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and revealed them to infants. Yes, **Father**, because this was Your good pleasure. All things have been entrusted to Me by **My Father**. No one knows who the Son is except the **Father**, and who the **Father** is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son desires to reveal Him.'" (Luke 10:21-23, CSB)*

Jesus, as the Son, uniquely reveals the Father to us. Through His life, teachings, and actions, we see God's heart in a way that no one else could show us. Jesus is the lens through which we understand the Father's love and purposes.

**Application:** Knowing Jesus = Knowing The Father.

### 3. How to Pray – To the Father (Luke 11:2-4)

#### **Bible Verses:**

*Then He was praying in a certain place; and when He stopped, one of His disciples said to Him, Lord, teach us to pray, [just] as John taught his disciples.*

*And He said to them, When you pray, say:*

***Our Father*** Who is in heaven, ***hallowed be Your name,***  
***Your kingdom*** come.

***Your will*** be done [held holy and revered] on earth as it is in heaven.

***Give us daily our bread*** [food for the morrow].

***And forgive us*** our sins, for ***we ourselves also forgive*** everyone who is indebted to us [who has offended us or done us wrong].

***And bring us not into temptation but rescue us*** from evil.

*(Luke 11:1-4 AMPC)*

Prayer is a personal conversation with the Father. It's not just about asking for things but about deepening our relationship with Him.

#### **Application:**

Go to the Father in prayer. Learn how to pray like the disciples did – directly from Jesus.

- Pray to The Father, putting Him in His rightful place in your prayers by worshipping Him and thanking Him
- Petition God to bring His Kingdom and His will to earth, asking that what He wants is done in our personal lives and in the world.
- Ask God for the things you need in your life, remembering that Jesus is our Bread from heaven, and everything we need is already provided in Him.
- Seek forgiveness for yourself from God, and then forgive others.
- Ask for temptation to be removed from you - purify your heart so that things that used to tempt you no longer do.

### 4. The Father gives Good Gifts, especially the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)

**Bible Verse:** *"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the **heavenly Father** give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:13, CSB)*

**Main Point:** The Father delights in giving good gifts to His children, especially the gift of the Holy Spirit that empowers, comforts, and guides us.

**Application:** Remember that The Father desires to give you good gifts as His beloved child.

## 5. The Cure for Anxiety & The Father's Delight (Luke 12:22-32)

**Bible Verses:** "Then Jesus said to His disciples: 'Therefore I tell you, don't worry about your life, what you will eat; or about the body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: They don't sow or reap, they don't have a storeroom or a barn, yet God feeds them. **Aren't you worth much more** than the birds? Can any of you add one moment to his lifespan by worrying? If then you're not able to do even a little thing, why worry about the rest?' "Consider how the wildflowers grow: They don't labor or spin thread, yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was adorned like one of these. If that's how God clothes the grass, which is in the field today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, **how much more will He do for you**—you of little faith! **Don't strive for what you should eat and what you should drink, and don't be anxious.** For the Gentiles of the world seek after all these things, and your **Father** knows that you need them. "But **seek His kingdom**, and these things will be provided for you. Don't be afraid, little flock, because your **Father delights** to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:22-32, CSB)

Anxiety fades when we focus on The Father's care and provision, knowing that He values us even more than the birds and flowers. Jesus explains to us that worrying about our needs is unnecessary because The Father is already aware and will provide. His greatest desire is to give us His Kingdom.

**Application:** When worry tries to come in, shift your focus to The Father's provision, seeking Him first. Live knowing that The Father delights to give you the kingdom.

## 6. The Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-31)

At the beginning of chapter 15, the tax collectors and sinners were coming to listen to Jesus. The Pharisees and scribes were complaining "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus began telling these three parables (The lost sheep, coin, and son).

He's laying into the religious leaders for becoming an arrogant, exclusive, social club.

The parable of the lost son, is about a Father and his two sons

The **younger son** represents the **outsiders** and he's showing that God sees them as sons and daughters.

The **older son** represents the **religious leaders** and Jesus is providing them with an opportunity to repent if they are willing.

**BOTH of the SONS in this story were lost...** and I think that I/we can be both of these sons at times.

I read the book "The Father Loves You – An initiation to perfect love" by Ed Piorek last year and it was wonderful so I highly recommend it. Some of the information in this section comes from this book, especially chapters "4 Prodigal Problems," and "5 Competing for Love."

Please look over this story in [Luke 15:11-31](#) for a couple of minutes. As you do, please look for the **fruit of each son's heart**, and for the **characteristics of the Father**.

**Bible Verses:**  
[The Parable of the Lost Son](#)

11 He also said, "A man had two sons. 12 **The younger** of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate I have coming to me.' So he distributed the assets[a] to them. 13 Not many days later, the **younger son** gathered together all he had and traveled to a distant country, where he squandered his estate in foolish living. 14 After he had spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he had nothing.[b] 15 Then he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to eat his fill from[c] the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one would give him anything. 17 When he came to his senses,[d] he said, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food, and here I am dying of hunger![e] 18 I'll get up, go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. 19 I'm no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired workers."' 20 So he got up and went to his father. But while the son was still a long way off, **his father** saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him. 21 **The son** said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I'm no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But **the father** told his servants, 'Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Then bring the fattened calf and slaughter it, and let's celebrate with a feast, 24 because this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' So they began to celebrate. 25 "Now his **older son** was in the field; as he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he summoned one of the servants, questioning what these things meant. 27 'Your brother is here,' he told him, 'and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'[f] 28 "Then he became angry and didn't want to go in. So **his father** came out and pleaded with him. 29 But he replied to his father, 'Look, I have been slaving many years for you, and I have never disobeyed your orders, yet you never gave me a goat so that I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your assets[g] with prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.' 31 "'Son,'[h] **he said** to him, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.' (Luke 15:11-31, CSB)

a. First, let's look at the YOUNGER SON.

**What is some of the "fruits" of the younger son's life that you see?**

- Went to a distant country
  - Distance from the Father
  - Addiction in today's culture
- Spent everything
  - Squandered wealth
  - In need financially
- Wild living like...
  - sexual immorality
  - Following the ways of the world
  - Succumbing to temptation
- No one gave him anything (when he wanted the pig's food)
  - Broken relationships

The YOUNGER SON was full of **lust and immorality**.

**I am a "prodigal son" every time I search for unconditional love where it cannot be found.**

b. Now, let's look at the OLDER SON.

**What are some of the "fruits" that you see in the older son?**

- Competing (with sibling)
- Insecurities
- Resentment and Anger
- Critical and Judgmental
- Jealous
- Proud
- Selfish/Self-Righteous

The OLDER SON was full of **cold obedience, religious striving, and legalism**. He was hard at work, but had a resentful attitude and was competing with and critical toward his brother.

**I am an "elder brother" when I'm attempting to earn The Father's love through good works.**

c. THE FATHER'S Response

**Now let's look at the Father's responses.**

**To the prodigal son...**

*Luke 15:20 (AMPC) ... But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity and tenderness [for him]; and he ran and embraced him and kissed him [fervently].*

- Watching and waiting for the return of His son
- Filled with compassion
- Ran to him
- Threw His arms around him and kissed him
- **Brought him back into the family**

**To the older son....**

*Luke 15:28 (CSB) Then he became angry and didn't want to go in. So his father came out and pleaded with him.*

*Luke 15:31-32 (CSB) "Son, he said to him, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"*

- Went out to him
- Pleaded with him to join in
- Reminded him that everything already belongs to him...
- **Reminded him that he is already part of the family**

**The Father's radical LOVE, GRACE, AND FORGIVENESS are shown to both sons.**

- The younger son is given forgiveness for immorality and restoration.
- The older brother is invited in to deeper relationship through freedom from pride and self-righteousness.

d. **THE WAY BACK**

The younger son illustrated the way back to the Father. I wonder if the older son chose to follow this path?

1. REMEMBER – Remember what a loving father we have. (Luke 15:17-20)
2. REPENT – Do an "about face" turning the other way and being all about the face of God. "Change our minds about something to the point that our feet will follow." (Luke 15:18)
3. RECEIVE – Experience the Love of the Father, finding what we have been searching for in all the wrong places. (Luke 15:20)

e. **APPLICATION**

Here are some things to consider, ask God about, and listen to what He says.

**PRODIGAL SON QUESTIONS (looking for unconditional love where it cannot be found)**

- Where am I being a rebellious (younger) child?
- Where in my life am I distancing myself from You, Father and avoiding a relationship with you?
- Why do I keep ignoring the place of true love and persist in looking for it elsewhere?

**ELDER BROTHER QUESTIONS (attempting to earn The Father's love through good works)**

- How am I acting like a self-righteous (older) child?
- Where in my life is my obedience to You, Father, cold and out of obligation?
- Why do I prefer to try to earn Your love and avoid relational intimacy with you?

**ORPHAN VS. SONSHIP CHARTS**

Please review the lists below and note where you see yourself and ask...

- Where do I need to take the "path home" to you, Father, and take the steps of 1) Remembering, 2) Repenting, and 3) Receiving so that I can live the life of a Son/Daughter and no longer an orphan?

**ORPHAN VS. SONSHIP CHARTS** (from Lisa Max <https://letthechildrenfly.com>)

### THE HEART OF AN ORPHAN

### THE HEART OF SONSHIP

See God as Master	IMAGE OF GOD	See God as a loving Father
Independent / Self-Reliant	DEPENDENCY	Interdependent/Acknowledges need
Live by the Love of Law	THEOLOGY	Live by the law of Love
Insecure/Lack peace	SECURITY	Rest and peace
Strive for the praise, approval, and acceptance of man	NEED FOR APPROVAL	Totally accepted in God's love and justified by Grace
A need for personal achievement as you seek to impress God and others, or no motivation to serve at all	MOTIVE FOR SERVICE	Service that is motivated by a deep gratitude for being unconditionally loved and accepted by God
Duty and earning God's favor or no motivation at all.	MOTIVE BEHIND CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES	Pleasure and delight
"Must" be holy to have God's favor, thus increasing a sense of shame and guilt	MOTIVE FOR PURITY	"Want to" be holy; do not want anything to hinder intimate relationship with God
Self-rejection from comparing yourself to others	SELF-IMAGE	Positive and affirmed because you know you have such value to God
Seek comfort in counterfeit affections: addictions, compulsions, escapism, busyness, hyper-religious activity	SOURCE OF COMFORT	Seek times of quietness and solitude to rest in the Father's presence and love
Competition, rivalry, jealousy toward other's success and position	PEER RELATIONSHIPS	Humility and unity as your value others and are able to rejoice in their blessings and success
Accusation and exposure in order to make yourself look good by making others look bad	HANDLING OTHERS' FAULTS	Love covers as you seek to restore others in a spirit of love and gentleness
See authority as a source of pain; distrustful toward them and lack a heart attitude of submission	VIEW OF AUTHORITY	Respectful, honoring; you see them as ministers of God for good in your life
Difficulty receiving admonition; you must be right so you easily get your feelings hurt and close your spirit to discipline	VIEW OF ADMONITION	See the receiving admonition as a blessing and need in your life so that your faults and weaknesses are exposed and put to death
Guarded and conditional; based upon other's performance as you seek to get your own needs met	EXPRESSION OF LOVE	Open, patient and affectionate as you lay your life and agendas down in order to meet the needs of others
Conditional and distant	SENSE OF GOD'S PRESENCE	Close and intimate
Bondage	CONDITION	Liberty
Feels like a servant/slave	POSITION	Feels like Son/Daughter
Spiritual ambition; the earnest desire for some spiritual achievement and distinction and the willingness to strive for it; a desire to be seen and counted among the mature	VISION	To daily experience the Father's unconditional love and acceptance and then be sent as a representative of His love to family and others
Fight for what you get	FUTURE	Sonship releases your inheritance

Source: shilohplace.org / All Are Precious in His Sight

### The Orphan

### The Child of God

I will not leave you as orphans.. (John14:18)	But he has given us the Spirit of sonship and by him we cry, 'Abba, Father!' (Rom 8:15)
Feels alone, Lacks a vital daily intimacy with God. Is full of self-concern.	Has growing assurance that 'God is really my loving heavenly Father.'
Anxious over felt needs: relationships, money, health. "I'm all alone and nobody cares. I'm not a happy camper."	Trusts the Father and has a growing confidence in his loving care. Is being freed up from worry.
Lives on succeed/fail basis. Needs to "look good" and "be right." Is performance-oriented.	Learning to live in daily, conscious, partnership with God. Is not fearful.
Feels condemned, guilty, and unworthy before God and others.	Feels love, forgiven, and totally accepted because Christ's merit really clothes him.
Has little faith, lots of faith in himself: "I've got to fix it."	Has a daily working trust in God's sovereign plan for her life as loving, wise, and best. Believes God is good
Labors under a sense of unlimited obligation. Tries too hard to please. Burns out.	Prayer is the first resort: "I'm going to ask my Daddy first," Cries "Abba, Father!"
Rebellious, resists authority. Heart is hard. Is not easily teachable.	Has strength to be submissive. Has soft (broken and contrite) heart. Is teachable.
Defensive, Can't listen well. Bristles at the charge of being self-righteous (thus proving the point)	Open to criticism since she consciously stands in Christ's perfection, not her own. Is able to examine her unbelief.
Needs to be right, safe and secure. Unwilling to fail. Unable to tolerate criticism. Can only "handle" praise.	Able to take risk and even fail, since his righteousness is in Christ. Needs no "record" to boast in, protect, or defend.
Excessively self-confident or self loathing. Discouraged, defeated, Lacks spiritual power.	Confident in Christ and encouraged because of the Holy Spirit's work in her.
Tends toward an "I can do it myself!" attitude. Is strong-willed, driven.	"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength!"
Unbelieving effort. Relies only on his gifts to get by in ministry.	Trusting less in self and more on the Holy Spirit – a daily, conscious, reliance.

Source: Stew Rd

<b>SLAVERY/ORPHAN MINDSET</b>	<b>SONSHIP MINDSET</b>
<b>Victim</b> – “Whoa is me”, I am powerless, helpless	<b>Overcomer</b> – more than conquerors, I can do all things;
<b>Poverty</b> – Expectation of lack, take what you can get because you don’t have a Father looking out for you.	<b>Abundance</b> – I have the riches of Christ, a wealthy and generous Father and His Spirit inside with unlimited wisdom and resource in every situation.
<b>Comparison</b> – my value is based on being more or less than someone else, leads pride “I am awesome or I am a loser”	<b>Family</b> – Father gives me value and affirmation therefore I can celebrate you/others
<b>Competition</b> – I need to be the best to be blessed or have more value	<b>Team</b> - I am with you and for you or lose because we are in this together, your success is my success.
<b>Performance</b> – striving because my worth is based on how well I do, the pressure us on me but right works don’t produce a right heart, relationship performance driven	<b>Rest</b> – “It is finishes”, you have been made righteous and enough in Christ, his yoke is easy, just say ‘yes’ and obey and let him handle the results, a right heart produces right works, relationships driven by love.
<b>God is Distant</b> – He tolerates me in my weakness and imperfection	<b>God is Near</b> – Father loves being with me and I bring delight to Him and His child.
<b>Always Fall Short</b> – I don’t measure up and deserve punishment	<b>Always in Line for Blessing</b> – Christ fully measured up and gave His right standing to me – by His merit, Father wants to bless me, trained and disciplined not punished.
<b>Condemnation</b> – I am bad and I need to keep distance until I improve my performance	<b>Conviction</b> – “I am always drawing you closer and am committed to removing everything in your life that hinders love!”
<b>Work to be someone</b> – slave is accepted by his performance.	Work because I am someone – I am a son/daughter with favor, resources and influence and I make a difference.
<b>Fear</b> – I am all alone and without help or protection. I am tolerated at best.	<b>Confidence</b> – You are with me and for me and will see me through, at home in Father’s love. I am celebrated by the Father.

Source: God Renews Us / [godrenews.us](http://godrenews.us)

## CLOSING

Throughout these passages in Luke, we see a **Father** who is loving, compassionate, generous, and full of grace.

He reveals Himself to us through **His Son, Jesus**, inviting us into a personal relationship with Him through prayer. He provides for our every need.

The Father cares for us deeply and delights to give us good gifts. He is the cure our anxieties.

Even when we stray or grow cold towards Him, His love remains unchanged, and He is always ready to restore us.

As we walk more and more in the knowledge of **who The Father is**, let's come to Him in prayer, and repentance, trusting Him with all our needs, and never forget the depth of His love for us—expressed most clearly through Jesus Christ.

May we experience His great love for us and be changed forever.

May we reflect His heart to the world around us, showing grace, forgiveness, and unconditional love just as He has shown us.

## **PARABLES**

### **WHY JESUS USED PARABLES**

**Secrets of the Kingdom of God (Luke 8:9-10):** Revealing and Concealing

#### **PARABLES IN LUKE 8 - 18**

1. **The Sower (Luke 8:4-8, 11-15):** How different "ground" responds to the "seeds" (The Word).
2. **Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37):** True neighborly love shows mercy even to "enemies."
3. **Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:5-13):** Persistence and boldness in prayer is key; God will respond and give the Holy Spirit.
4. **Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21):** Be on guard against greed; Focus on being rich toward God, not accumulating wealth.
5. **Mustard Seed (Luke 13:18-19):** God's kingdom starts small but grows mightily.
6. **Yeast (Luke 13:20-21):** The kingdom of God grows quietly but powerfully.
7. **Narrow Door (Luke 13:22-30):** Salvation requires earnest commitment and relationship.
8. **Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7):** God rejoices over one sinner who repents.
9. **Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10):** God rejoices when the lost are found.
10. **Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32):** God's forgiveness is abundant for the repentant.\*
11. **Unjust Steward (Luke 16:1-13):** Be wise with earthly resources, serving God, not money.
12. **Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31):** Earthly actions have eternal consequences.
13. **Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8):** Be persistent in prayer; God will answer.
14. **Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14):** God values humility over self-righteousness.

*\*Covered in "THE FATHER" section also*

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### **WHY JESUS USED PARABLES**

**Secrets of the Kingdom of God (Luke 8:9-10):** Seeing, hearing, and persevering to understand

*In Luke 8:9-10 from the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition, it says:*

*9 And when His disciples asked Him the meaning of this parable,*

*10 He said to them, To you it has been given to [come progressively to] know (to recognize and understand more strongly and clearly) the mysteries and secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that, [though] looking, they may not see; and hearing, they may not comprehend.*

(8:9-10) Jewish teachers normally used parables to illustrate and explain points, not to conceal them. But if one told stories without stating the point they were meant to illustrate, as Jesus does here, only those who listen most astutely and start with insider's knowledge could figure out one's point.

Greek teachers like Plato would leave some points obscure to keep them from outsiders; Jewish teachers would sometimes do the same. **Thus only those who were serious enough to persevere would understand.**

#### **REVEAL:**

Jesus used parables to REVEAL truth to people who were open-minded, those who had ears to hear... they could ponder them, persevere, and go deeper.

#### **CONCEAL:**

The parables also CONSEALED His message from those who were against him... to buy more time to prepare his followers for his coming death and resurrection.

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## PARABLES IN LUKE CHAPTERS 8 - 18

1. **The Sower (Luke 8:4-8, 11-15)**: Jesus illustrates how different people respond to God's message.

Jesus illustrates how different people's hearts respond to God's message

Sower = Anyone who spreads the Word of God

Seeds = The Word

Ground/Soil = The people's hearts

### Types of Ground/Soil:

Path: the devil comes and takes away the word – don't believe

Rock: originally received the word with joy, but takes no root so they fall away during time of testing

Thorns: on the way, are choked with worries, riches and pleasures of life – produce no mature fruit

Good ground: hear the word with HONEST and GOOD hearts [just, noble, virtuous, and worthy] , HOLD onto it, through ENDURING [patience] produce **good fruit 100 times what was sown! (8:15 AMPC)**

2. **Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)**: True neighborly love shows mercy even to "enemies."

Luke 10:36-37 says:

*36 "Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"*

*37 "The one who showed mercy to him," he said.*

*Then Jesus told him, "Go and do the same."*

True neighborly love is demonstrated through mercy and action, regardless of societal boundaries or prejudices.

3. **Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:5-13)**: Persistence and boldness in prayer is key; God will respond and give the Holy Spirit.

Note that this parable comes right after the "Model Prayer" that Jesus gives to his disciples how to pray (see Luke 11:1-4).

This prayer highlights persistence in prayer - asking, seeking, and knocking with shameless boldness and that God will respond. (11:8-9)

In 11:13 it says,

*If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"*

(11:11-13) This is a standard Jewish "how much more" argument. Most people believed that the Holy Spirit had (1) departed, (2) was available only to several of the holiest people, or (3) belonged to the community. Thus the promise of verse 13 would have sounded profound; given common beliefs about the Spirit in ancient Judaism, this was essentially a promise that God would make them prophets, anointed spokespersons for God.

4. **Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21): Be on guard against greed; Focus on being rich toward God, not accumulating wealth.**

*Luke 12:15 says:*

*15 He then told them, "Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because one's life is not in the abundance of his possessions."*

Life is fleeting, and accumulating wealth without regard to God's kingdom is futile. We are called to store up treasures in heaven rather than hoarding material wealth for selfish purposes.

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5. **Mustard Seed (Luke 13:18-19): God's kingdom starts small but grows mightily.**
6. **Yeast (Luke 13:20-21): The kingdom of God grows quietly but powerfully.**

The next two parables are told together and have related lessons: **The Mustard Seed (Luke 13:18-19) and The Yeast (Luke 13:20-21)**. The kingdom of God may start off very small, but grows exponentially and has a lasting impact.

(13:19) Everyone regarded the mustard seed as very small; indeed, something smaller would be hard to see. It nevertheless yielded a shrub the size of a tree, with room for birds to perch in it. Around the Sea of Galilee, it can reach a height of 8-10 feet.

(13:20-21) Leaven, or yeast, would be mixed with flour throughout the dough.

The point of both parables (13:18-21) is that the mighty kingdom everyone expects could issue from apparently obscure beginnings – like Jesus and the disciples.

7. **Narrow Door (Luke 13:22-30): Salvation requires earnest commitment and relationship.**

*Luke 13:23-25 says:*

*"Lord," someone asked him, "are only a few people going to be saved?"*

*He said to them, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and won't be able once the homeowner gets up and shuts the door. Then you will stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'Lord, open up for us!' He will answer you, 'I don't know you or where you're from.'"*

#### **Is Our Salvation Personal or Theoretical?**

Once again, Jesus took an abstract question and brought it down to concrete reality. The question is not "Are there few who will be saved?" but "Will you be among the saved?"

The word strive (*make every effort*) means "to agonize like an athlete." This does not imply that we are saved by our hard work, because we are saved by grace when we trust Jesus Christ. Rather, it warns us to avoid an easy, complacent, and theoretical attitude toward the eternal destiny of the soul.

If we fail to take salvation seriously, we may find the door shut and somebody else taking our place at the feast!

Salvation requires an intentional effort to "enter through the narrow door" to His Kingdom. This is a personal relationship with Jesus - so that we know Him and He knows us.

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8. **Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7): God rejoices over one sinner who repents.**
9. **Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10): God rejoices when the lost are found.**
10. **Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32): God's forgiveness is abundant for the repentant.\***

\*covered in "The Father" section also

The next three parables are related...

**Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7)**

**Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10)**

**Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)**

All of these things that were lost were of great value and were worth the work to find them.

All of them illustrate that true repentance leads to restoration.

### **Lost Sheep**

He leaves the 99 to find the one....a "wise" shepherd would not leave the 99 in order to find one, but Jesus goes beyond the "wise" shepherd. Love will risk everything for what is beloved. God rejoices when a single sinner repents and returns to Him.

### **Lost Coin**

Just like the woman who searches diligently for her lost coin, God is eager to bring back those who are lost in sin. There's great joy in heaven when one sinner repents.

### **Prodigal Son**

*We spoke about this earlier (see The Father section) Here are some highlights:*

The "prodigal son" searches for love where it cannot be found.

The "elder brother" attempts to earn The Father's love through good works.

Remember who Your Father in Heaven is. Turn to Him with a repentant heart. Your Father welcomes you into His family with radical LOVE, GRACE, and FORGIVENESS.

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11. **Unjust Steward (Luke 16:1-13): Be wise with earthly resources, serving God, not money.**

Luke 16:10-11 says:

*10 Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much, and whoever is unrighteous in very little is also unrighteous in much. 11 So if you have not been faithful with worldly wealth, who will trust you with what is genuine?*

Luke 13b says:

*13... You cannot serve both God and money."*

The unjust steward's shrewdness teaches us that we should be faithful with the "little" (such as worldly wealth/resources) so we can be trusted with "much" (such as heavenly wealth/resources). We should serve God and not money.

**12. Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31): Earthly actions have eternal consequences.**

In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus tells the story of a rich man and a poor beggar named Lazarus. The rich man lives in luxury, while Lazarus suffers at his gate, covered in sores. After they both die, Lazarus is carried to Abraham's side, while the rich man is tormented in Hades. The rich man pleads for Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his family, but Abraham explains that they have the Scriptures and should listen to them. He concludes that if they don't listen to Moses and the prophets, they wouldn't be persuaded even if someone were to rise from the dead.

(16:27-31) If those who claimed to believe the Bible failed to live accordingly, even a resurrection (Jesus points ahead to His own) would not persuade them. Jewish literature also emphasized the moral responsibility of all people to obey whatever measure of light they already had.

**13. Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8): Be persistent in prayer; God will answer.**

This parable encourages steadfastness in prayer, which guards against disheartedness, during the delay of Christ's return.

It also uses contrast rather than comparison. The readiness of God to effect justice lies in contrast to the reluctance of the judge who only dispenses justice out of being completely exasperated with how annoying and insistent this woman is.

God is ready and willing....and we are not a widowed women, who were considered the lowliest of society, but we are part of Christ's own family.

God, who is just and loving, will respond to the persistent prayers of His people.

**14. Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14): God values humility over self-righteousness.**

The Pharisee's pride and self-righteousness stand in contrast to the tax collector's humble repentance.

(18:14) Jesus' conclusion to the parable would shock the original hearers. It fails to shock many Christian hearers today, only because they are so accustomed to the parable.

Here's a bit more background so you can understand why this would have been shocking to the original hearers.

(18:9-10) Pharisees were the most pious people in regular Palestinian Jewish society; tax gatherers were the most despicable, often considered traitors to their people. To catch the impact of this parable today,

you could think of these characters as the most active deacon in the church versus a drug dealer or crooked politician.

(18:11) Jewish people considered it pious to thank God for one's righteousness, rather than taking credit for it oneself. The first hearers of this parable would not think of the Pharisee as boastful, but rather as grateful to God for his piety.

(18:13) Standing with eyes and hands lifted to heaven was a common posture of prayer. Beating one's breast was a sign of great mourning or grief, in this case, in repentance for sin (which In Jewish custom was expressed by mourning). The tax gatherer's prayer for mercy involves no deliberate act of restitution, and hence many of Jesus' contemporaries would judge it invalid.

## **HEALING AND DELIVERANCE**

1. Demons Driven Out by Jesus (Luke 8:26-38)
2. Girl Raised to Life and Woman Healed (Luke 8:40-56)
3. Commissioning the Twelve – Power and Authority over demons and to heal diseases (Luke 9:1-6)
4. The Power of Jesus Over a Demon (Luke 9:37-43)
5. The Seventy-Two: Sent to Heal the Sick; Authority over Demons (Luke 10:9, 17-20)
6. Delivering the Mute Man (Luke 11:14)
7. Healing the Woman Bent Over for 18 Years on the Sabbath (Luke 13:10-17)
8. Healing a man with Dropsy on the Sabbath (Luke 14:1-6)
9. Healing the Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
10. Healing the Blind Beggar (Luke 18:35-43)

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### **Introduction**

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus and his disciples demonstrate their compassion for people and their authority over sickness, death, and demons. They heal the sick, casts out demons, and deliver people, bringing freedom and restoration.

These stories really challenge me because they are supernatural and miraculous - way beyond things my mind can understand. **I desperately want to see these kinds of miracles and freedom** for people happening here and now - in our lives and in our church and community.

I pray that as we read through some key moments of healing and deliverance from Luke chapters 8 through 18, that our faith will be built up... as Jesus says in one story below:

*"Don't be afraid. Only believe..." (Luke 8:30)*

#### **1. Demons Driven Out by Jesus (Luke 8:26-38)**

In Luke 8:26-38, Jesus demonstrates His authority by driving out a legion of demons from a man possessed, sending the demons into a herd of pigs, which then drown in the lake. The people in the area are afraid and ask Jesus to leave.

(8:30-31) A legion included four to six thousand troops, this man therefore hosted a large number of demons!

(8:32) Only Gentiles or nonobservant Jews raised pigs, which Jewish readers would consider among the most unclean animals and thus rightful hosts for evil spirits.

(8:38-39) Because Jesus' Messiahship would be misunderstood, Jesus kept it a secret in predominantly Jewish areas. In the predominantly non-Jewish Decapolis, however, where people would wrongly perceive him as a magician, he urges his newly freed disciple to spread the word about what God had done, thereby correcting the people's misunderstanding.

#### **2. Girl Raised to Life and Woman Healed (Luke 8:40-56)**

In Luke 8:40-56, A woman who'd suffered from chronic bleeding for twelve years had spent all she had on doctors and could not be healed by any of them.

(8:43) This woman's sickness made her constantly unclean under the law – causing not only a physical problem, but a social one too.

(8:44-45) If she touched anyone or anyone's clothes, she rendered that person ceremonially unclean for the rest of the day. She therefore should not have even been in this heavy crowd. This woman could not touch or be touched, was probably now divorced or had never married, and was marginal to the rest of the Jewish society.

However, she approached Jesus *"from behind and touched the end of his robe. Instantly her bleeding stopped."* (Luke 8:44). Jesus knew that power had gone out from him and wanted to know who had touched him. He said to her, *"Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace"* (Luke 8:48).

The healing of this woman caused a delay in Jesus going to heal the daughter of Jairus, a leader of the synagogue. Someone comes and tells them his daughter is already dead, so not to bother Jesus anymore.

Jesus response: *"Don't be afraid. Only believe and she will be saved."* (Luke 8:50)

Jesus proceeds to raise this young girl from the dead saying, *"Child, get up!"* (Luke 8:54-55), her spirit returned and she got up at once.

### 3. Commissioning the Twelve – Power and Authority over **demons** and to **heal** diseases (Luke 9:1-6)

In Luke 9:1-6, Jesus commissions the twelve disciples...

*"Summoning the Twelve, he gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. Then he sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick."* (Luke 9:1-2)

(9:1-2) Under Jewish law, a sender could authorize messenger to act with his full legal authority to the extent of the commission given them.

(9:3) Jesus instruct the disciples to travel light, so they are totally committed to their mission, not tied down with worldly concerns.

*"So they went out and traveled from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing everywhere."* (Luke 9:6)

### 4. The Power of Jesus Over a **Demon** (Luke 9:37-43)

In Luke 9:37-43, Jesus casts out a demon from a boy whom His disciples could not heal. He said... *"Bring your son here."* Then in verse 42, *"As the boy was still approaching, the demon knocked him down and threw him into severe convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And they were all astonished at the greatness of God."* (Luke 9:42 – 43a)

### 5. The Seventy-Two: Sent to **Heal** the Sick; Authority over **Demons** (Luke 10:1-12, 17-20)

In Luke 10:9 Jesus sends out the Seventy-two disciples and says to them, *"Heal the sick who are there, and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'"* (Luke 10:9, CSB)

Then, in Luke 10:17-20, the disciples return, amazed that even demons submit to them. Jesus affirms their authority but reminds them of the greater joy of salvation:

*"I have given you the authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy; nothing at all will injure you. However, don't rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."* (Luke 10:19-20, CSB)

**6. Delivering the Mute Man (Luke 11:14)**

In Luke 11:14, Jesus delivers a mute man by casting out a demon:

*"Now He was driving out a demon that was mute; when the demon came out, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed."* (Luke 11:14, CSB)

**7. Healing the Woman Bent Over for 18 Years on the Sabbath (Luke 13:10-17)**

In Luke 13:10-17, we see Jesus heal a woman on the Sabbath, who was bent over for 18 years due to a spirit of infirmity. He said to her, *"Woman, you are free of your disability."*

The leaders of the synagogue were indignant that Jesus healed her on the Sabbath, He responds by calling them hypocrites, and says that they would untie a donkey to lead it to water so why *shouldn't she be untied from this bondage on the Sabbath day?*" (Luke 13:12, 16)

**8. Healing a man with Dropsy on the Sabbath (Luke 14:1-6)**

In Luke 14:1-6, Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath with dropsy (or edema - his body was swollen with fluid), again challenging the Pharisees' interpretation of the law. He asks: *"Which of you, whose son or ox falls into a well, will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?" They could find no answer to these things.*" (Luke 14:5)

(14:3-6) Jewish legal experts debated proper sabbath laws among themselves; if one side was silenced and unable to reply, they would be presumed wrong or at best too ignorant of the law to defend their position. Essenes (a monastic Jewish sect) did not permit rescuing an animal on the Sabbath, but Pharisees did. Jesus argues by analogy with a principle on which his opponents agreed, and extrapolates by a "how much more" argument.

**9. Healing the Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)**

In Luke 17:11-19, Jesus heals ten lepers, but only one returns to thank Him. Jesus says, *"Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?"* (Luke 17:17)

The nine ungrateful lepers were meant to represent the nation of people who had been ungrateful and unresponsive to the cleansing work of Jesus because only the "foreigner" returned to give glory to God.

**10. Healing the Blind Beggar (Luke 18:35-43)**

Lastly, in Luke 18:35-43, a blind beggar calls out to Jesus, and Jesus heals him: *"Receive your sight; your faith has saved you."* (Luke 18:42)

(18:36-38) The blind man shouts "Son of David" meaning that he recognizes Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus characterizes his insistent, obstinate plea for mercy as "faith."

(18:39-42) Blind people were socially powerless, and Jesus' followers see his loud pleas as an intrusion, the way they had seen the children in 18:15.

**Conclusion:**

Throughout the book of Luke, we see that Jesus healed bodies and brought deliverance from spiritual oppression, demonstrated authority over evil, and offered restoration in every area of life.

I believe He invites us to be part of this same mission today: to bring healing and freedom to the world around us through His power and in His name.

May we boldly step out in faith, bringing the kingdom of God to others, trusting that the healing power of Jesus is available to all who believe.

## **FOLLOWING JESUS**

1. Commissioning The Twelve (Luke 9:1-6)\*\*
2. Take Up Your Cross (Luke 9:23-27)
3. Like a Child (Luke 9:46-48)
4. Following Jesus (Luke 9:57-62)
5. Sending Out and Return of the Seventy-Two (Luke 10:1-12, 17-20)\*\*
6. True Blessedness - Hear the Word and Keep It (Luke 11:28)
7. Not Peace But Division (Luke 12:49-53)
8. The Narrow Way (Luke 13:22-30) \*\*\*
9. Counting the Cost of Discipleship (Luke 14:25-33)
10. Be On Guard Against Hypocrisy (Luke 11:37-12:3)
11. Warning against Offences; Forgive the repentant (Luke 17:1-4)
12. Blessing the Children (Luke 18:15-17)

*\*\*Also covered in the "HEALING AND DELIVERANCE" Section*

### **Introduction**

Following Jesus, as described in Luke, involves a deep commitment to His call, marked by sacrifice, humility, child-likeness, boldness, authority, tenacity, and transformation.

**1. Commissioning the Twelve (Luke 9:1-6):** Jesus empowers the twelve disciples to heal the sick, cast out demons, and proclaim the Kingdom of God, sending them out to spread His message.

*\*\*Also covered in the "HEALING AND DELIVERANCE" Section*

**2. Take Up Your Cross (Luke 9:23-27):** Jesus calls His followers to daily self-denial, taking up their cross, and following Him, even if it means losing their lives for His sake.

**3. Like a Child (Luke 9:46-48):** True greatness in God's Kingdom comes from humility and childlike faith, prioritizing others over oneself.

(9:46-48) Children had no status in society, but Jesus declares that in God's sight, they are like messengers... in Jewish custom, they bore full authorization of the one they represented (just like the Twelve commissioned in Luke 9:1-2)... so they didn't need worldly status. Representatives of someone who had great authority exercised more authority than others who acted on their own.

**4. Following Jesus (Luke 9:57-62):** Jesus challenges potential followers to consider the cost of discipleship, emphasizing the urgency and total commitment required.

**5. Sending Out and Return of the Seventy-Two (Luke 10:1-12, 17-20):** Jesus sends 72 followers to proclaim the Kingdom and heal the sick, rejoicing not in power but in salvation.

*\*\*Also covered in the "HEALING AND DELIVERANCE" Section*

**6. True Blessedness (Luke 11:28):** True blessedness comes from hearing and obeying God's Word.

**7. Not Peace But Division (Luke 12:49-53):** Jesus warns that His message will bring division, as it confronts people's values and allegiances.

**8. The Narrow Way (Luke 13:22-30):** Jesus teaches that salvation requires intentional effort and commitment, not complacency, to follow the narrow path to His Kingdom

*\*\*\*Also covered in the Parables section*

**9. Counting the Cost of Discipleship (Luke 14:25-33):** Discipleship requires careful consideration, and demands total commitment and sacrifice. A true follower of Christ must die to self-centeredness and be willing to suffer or even die.

**10. Be On Guard Against Hypocrisy (Luke 11:37-12:3):** Jesus calls for authenticity in following Him, warning against hypocrisy and emphasizing heart over outward appearance.

**11. Warning against Offences; Forgiveness and Repentance (Luke 17:1-4):** Jesus warns not to offend His followers (offences meaning "stumbling blocks, the trigger of a trap or snare), causing them to sin or stumble; Also to confront your brother's sins, and if they repent, forgive them.

**12. Blessing the Children (Luke 18:15-17):** Jesus blesses children, teaching that the Kingdom belongs to those who receive it with openness and humility.

(18:15-17) Children were people of no social status, and the disciples would not want the important time of their rabbi taken up with blessing them. But Jesus says that the kingdom belongs to the nobodies, those who do not approach it on the merits of their own status.

(One other thought for #3 and #12... we are to be "childlike" in faith, not childish)

## **MARY & MARTHA (Luke 10:38-42)**

- Martha – Distracted
- Mary – One Thing (Priority vs. Precedence)
- Shallows -> Midlands -> Depths

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In the story of Martha and Mary in [Luke 10:38-42](#) we see that Mary *"sat at the Lord's feet and was listening to what he said"* but *"Martha was distracted by her many tasks..."*

Mary knew how to make God **THE Priority...**

- No such thing as "priorities... these are things put in order of precedence"
- **He's the One Thing**

Martha was caught up in the **shallows** of life. It wasn't wrong for her to prepare a meal, because people have to eat if they are to live; but it was wrong for her to be so preoccupied with work and to be **"anxious and troubled."**

Here are some of my highlights from a book I read recently called "Resilient" by John Eldredge that I think helps illustrate how we can move from the Shallows, through the Midlands, and into the Depths to abiding with Christ and being "at his feet" like Mary was.

- Shallows -> Midlands -> Depths

These are "Layers" of our being (existence):

- **Shallows:** ruled by the distractions of life
  - Flit from thought to thought, distraction to distraction
  - Burn mental energy and take your focus on a roller coaster ride
- **Midlands:** What Jesus calls, "the cares of life"
  - Weightier matters, deeper worries, heartaches, longings, and aspirations
  - Pressures that keep you up at night, cause us to pray
  - Things like health of your aging parents, the learning struggles of your children, a troubled relationship, progress of your career, finances, your health, hopes and fears for the future
  - "Watch yourselves, lest your hearts be weighted down with ... the cares of this life" ([Luke 21:34 ESV](#))
- **Depths:** Essence of your existence and the dwelling place of God
  - Characterized and ruled by eternal things like faith, hope, love, and joy ([Psalm 130:1-2, 5-6](#))
  - **The power of His Presence is the cure to weariness**
  - This is where we want to abide, in a life of prayer and communion with God.

I highly suggest the Pause App that goes along with the books "Resilient" and "Get Your Life Back" by John Eldredge

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord, I pray that we will seek you with all our hearts and make you our PRIORITY.

Help us to be undistracted and to surrender all our cares and worries to you.

May we experience your Presence as we dwell in the depths of relationship with You – Abiding in You.

I bless you with enjoying the pleasure of God's company and resting in your place of Sonship!

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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Warren Wiersbe's Expository Outlines (Book)

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She Reads Truth Bible (CSB version)

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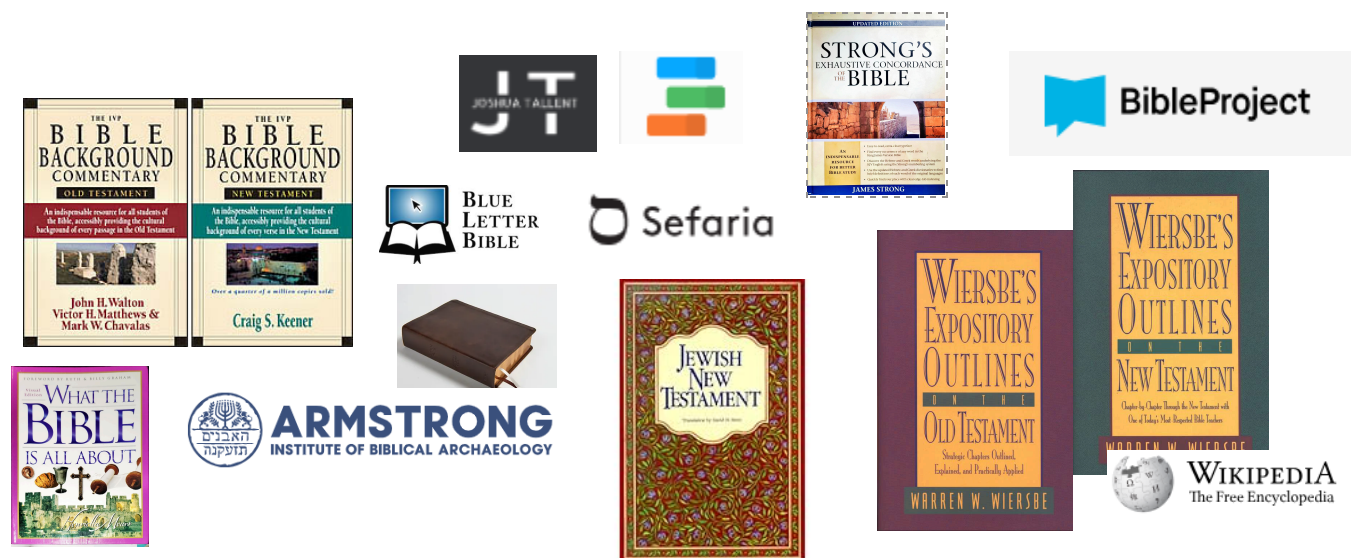
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The Bible Project Website/YouTube channel

The Father Loves You – An initiation to perfect love by Ed Piorek

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# **Through The Bible: Luke 8-18**

**Venture Church | January 29, 2025 | Kristin Stansberry**

## **OVERVIEW & CONTEXT**

- Author
- Context
- Key Themes/Message
- Structure

## **THE FATHER**

1. The Father Reveals The Son (Luke 9:34-35)
2. The Son Reveals The Father (Luke 10:21-23)
3. How to Pray – To the Father (Luke 11:2-4)
4. The Father gives Good Gifts, especially the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)
5. The Cure for Anxiety & The Father's Delight (Luke 12:22-32)
6. The Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-31)

*(Also See pages below: APPLICATIONS - KNOWING THE FATHER)*

## **PARABLES**

WHY JESUS USED PARABLES

**Secrets of the Kingdom of God (Luke 8:9-10):** Revealing and Concealing

PARABLES IN LUKE 8 - 18

1. **The Sower (Luke 8:4-8, 11-15):** How different "ground" responds to the "seeds" (The Word).
2. **Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37):** True neighborly love shows mercy even to "enemies."
3. **Friend at Midnight (Luke 11:5-13):** Persistence and boldness in prayer is key; God will respond and give the Holy Spirit.
4. **Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21):** Be on guard against greed; Focus on being rich toward God, not accumulating wealth.
5. **Mustard Seed (Luke 13:18-19):** God's kingdom starts small but grows mightily.
6. **Yeast (Luke 13:20-21):** The kingdom of God grows quietly but powerfully.
7. **Narrow Door (Luke 13:22-30):** Salvation requires earnest commitment and relationship.
8. **Lost Sheep (Luke 15:3-7):** God rejoices over one sinner who repents.
9. **Lost Coin (Luke 15:8-10):** God rejoices when the lost are found.
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11. **Unjust Steward (Luke 16:1-13):** Be wise with earthly resources, serving God, not money.
12. **Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31):** Earthly actions have eternal consequences.
13. **Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8):** Be persistent in prayer; God will answer.
14. **Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14):** God values humility over self-righteousness.

*\*Covered in "THE FATHER" section also*

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## **HEALING AND DELIVERANCE**

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12. Blessing the Children (Luke 18:15-17)

*\*\*Also covered in the "HEALING AND DELIVERANCE" Section*

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- Martha – Distracted
- Mary – One Thing (Priority vs. Precedence)
- Shallows -> Midlands -> Depths

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# **Through The Bible: Luke 8-18**

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## **APPLICATIONS - KNOWING THE FATHER**

*As you go through these passages, I pray that you will have a deeper understanding of who our Father God is, and how to heal the orphaned parts of your hearts. May the truth of His Word set you free! ~Kristin*

### **1. The Father Reveals The Son (Luke 9:34-35)**

**Bible Verses:** *"While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them. They became afraid as the cloud covered them. Then a voice came from the cloud, saying: 'This is my Son, the Chosen One; **listen** to him!'" (Luke 9:34-35, CSB)*

During the Transfiguration, God the Father reveals Jesus as His beloved Son and commands the disciples to listen to Him. The voice from the cloud affirms Jesus' divine identity and authority, highlighting that He is the Chosen One—the Messiah.

**Application:** LISTEN to Jesus and prioritize His voice over all others in our lives.

### **2. The Son Reveals The Father (Luke 10:21-23)**

**Bible Verses:** *"At that time Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, 'I praise You, **Father**, Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and revealed them to infants. Yes, **Father**, because this was Your good pleasure. All things have been entrusted to Me by **My Father**. No one knows who the Son is except the **Father**, and who the **Father** is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son desires to reveal Him.'" (Luke 10:21-23, CSB)*

Jesus, as the Son, uniquely reveals the Father to us. Through His life, teachings, and actions, we see God's heart in a way that no one else could show us. Jesus is the lens through which we understand the Father's love and purposes.

**Application:** Knowing Jesus = Knowing The Father.

### **3. How to Pray – To the Father (Luke 11:2-4)**

**Bible Verses:**

*Then He was praying in a certain place; and when He stopped, one of His disciples said to Him, Lord, teach us to pray, [just] as John taught his disciples.*

*And He said to them, When you pray, say:*

***Our Father*** Who is in heaven, ***hallowed be Your name,***  
***Your kingdom*** come.

***Your will*** be done [held holy and revered] on earth as it is in heaven.

***Give us daily our bread*** [food for the morrow].

***And forgive us*** our sins, for ***we ourselves also forgive*** everyone who is indebted to us [who has offended us or done us wrong].

***And bring us not into temptation but rescue us*** from evil.

*(Luke 11:1-4 AMPC)*

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Prayer is a personal conversation with the Father. It's not just about asking for things but about deepening our relationship with Him.

### **Application:**

Go to the Father in prayer. Learn how to pray like the disciples did – directly from Jesus.

- Pray to The Father, putting Him in His rightful place in your prayers by worshipping Him and thanking Him
- Petition God to bring His Kingdom and His will to earth, asking that what He wants is done in our personal lives and in the world.
- Ask God for the things you need in your life, remembering that Jesus is our Bread from heaven, and everything we need is already provided in Him.
- Seek forgiveness for yourself from God, and then forgive others.
- Ask for temptation to be removed from you - purify your heart so that things that used to tempt you no longer do.

### **4. The Father gives Good Gifts, especially the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13)**

**Bible Verse:** *"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the **heavenly Father** give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:13, CSB)*

The Father delights in giving good gifts to His children, especially the gift of the Holy Spirit that empowers, comforts, and guides us.

**Application:** Remember that The Father desires to give you good gifts as His beloved child.

### **5. The Cure for Anxiety & The Father's Delight (Luke 12:22-32)**

**Bible Verses:** *"Then Jesus said to His disciples: 'Therefore I tell you, don't worry about your life, what you will eat; or about the body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: They don't sow or reap, they don't have a storeroom or a barn, yet God feeds them. **Aren't you worth much more** than the birds? Can any of you add one moment to his lifespan by worrying? If then you're not able to do even a little thing, why worry about the rest? "Consider how the wildflowers grow: They don't labor or spin thread, yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was adorned like one of these. If that's how God clothes the grass, which is in the field today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, **how much more will He do for you**—you of little faith! **Don't strive for what you should eat and what you should drink, and don't be anxious.** For the Gentiles of the world seek after all these things, and your **Father** knows that you need them.*

*"But **seek His kingdom**, and these things will be provided for you. Don't be afraid, little flock, because your **Father delights** to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:22-32, CSB)*

Anxiety fades when we focus on The Father's care and provision, knowing that He values us even more than the birds and flowers. Jesus explains to us that worrying about our needs is unnecessary because The Father is already aware and will provide. His greatest desire is to give us His Kingdom.

**Application:** When worry tries to come in, shift your focus to The Father's provision, seeking Him first. Live knowing that The Father delights to give you the kingdom.

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### 6. The Parable of the Lost Son (Luke 15:11-31)

#### Bible Verses:

##### *The Parable of the Lost Son*

**11** He also said, "A man had two sons. **12** **The younger** of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate I have coming to me.' So he distributed the assets[a] to them. **13** Not many days later, the **younger son** gathered together all he had and traveled to a distant country, where he squandered his estate in foolish living. **14** After he had spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he had nothing.[b] **15** Then he went to work for one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. **16** He longed to eat his fill from[c] the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one would give him anything. **17** When he came to his senses,[d] he said, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food, and here I am dying of hunger![e] **18** I'll get up, go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. **19** I'm no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired workers.'" **20** So he got up and went to his father. But while the son was still a long way off, **his father** saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him. **21** **The son** said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I'm no longer worthy to be called your son.' **22** "But **the father** told his servants, 'Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. **23** Then bring the fattened calf and slaughter it, and let's celebrate with a feast, **24** because this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' So they began to celebrate. **25** "Now his **older son** was in the field; as he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. **26** So he summoned one of the servants, questioning what these things meant. **27** 'Your brother is here,' he told him, 'and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'[f] **28** "Then he became angry and didn't want to go in. So **his father** came out and pleaded with him. **29** But he replied to his father, 'Look, I have been slaving many years for you, and I have never disobeyed your orders, yet you never gave me a goat so that I could celebrate with my friends. **30** But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your assets[g] with prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.' **31** "'Son,'[h] **he said** to him, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. (Luke 15:11-31, CSB)

The YOUNGER SON was full of lust and immorality.

**I am a "prodigal son" every time I search for unconditional love where it cannot be found.**

The OLDER SON was full of cold obedience, religious striving, and legalism. He was hard at work, but had a resentful attitude and was competing with and critical toward his brother.

**I am an "elder brother" when I'm attempting to earn The Father's love through good works.**

# **Through The Bible: Luke 8-18**

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## THE FATHER'S Response

**To the prodigal son... He brought him back into the family**

*Luke 15:20 (AMPC) ... But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity and tenderness [for him]; and he ran and embraced him and kissed him [fervently].*

**To the older son.... He reminded him that he is already part of the family**

*Luke 15:28 (CSB) Then he became angry and didn't want to go in. So his father came out and pleaded with him.*

*Luke 15:31-32 (CSB) "'Son, he said to him, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"*

**The Father's radical LOVE, GRACE, AND FORGIVENESS are shown to both sons.**

- The younger son is given forgiveness for immorality and restoration.
- The older brother is invited in to deeper relationship through freedom from pride and self-righteousness.

## THE WAY BACK

The younger son illustrated the way back to the Father. I wonder if the older son chose to follow this path?

1. **REMEMBER** – Remember what a loving father we have. (Luke 15:17-20)
2. **REPENT** – Do an "about face" turning the other way and being all about the face of God. "Change our minds about something to the point that our feet will follow." (Luke 15:18)
3. **RECEIVE** – Experience the Love of the Father, finding what we have been searching for in all the wrong places. (Luke 15:20)

## **Application:**

Here are some things to consider, ask God about, and listen to what He says.

### **PRODIGAL SON QUESTIONS (looking for unconditional love where it cannot be found)**

- Where am I being a rebellious (younger) child?
- Where in my life am I distancing myself from You, Father and avoiding a relationship with you?
- Why do I keep ignoring the place of true love and persist in looking for it elsewhere?

### **ELDER BROTHER QUESTIONS (attempting to earn The Father's love through good works)**

- How am I acting like a self-righteous (older) child?
- Where in my life is my obedience to You, Father, cold and out of obligation?
- Why do I prefer to try to earn Your love and avoid relational intimacy with you?

### **ORPHAN VS. SONSHIP CHARTS**

Please review the lists below and note where you see yourself and ask...

- Where do I need to take the "path home" to you, Father, and take the steps of 1) Remembering, 2) Repenting, and 3) Receiving so that I can live the life of a Son/Daughter and no longer an orphan?

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**ORPHAN VS. SONSHIP CHARTS** (from Lisa Max <https://letthechildrenfly.com>)

THE HEART OF AN ORPHAN		THE HEART OF SONSHIP
See God as Master	IMAGE OF GOD	See God as a loving Father
Independent / Self-Reliant	DEPENDENCY	Interdependent/Acknowledges need
Live by the Love of Law	THEOLOGY	Live by the law of Love
Insecure/Lack peace	SECURITY	Rest and peace
Strive for the praise, approval, and acceptance of man	NEED FOR APPROVAL	Totally accepted in God's love and justified by Grace
A need for personal achievement as you seek to impress God and others, or no motivation to serve at all	MOTIVE FOR SERVICE	Service that is motivated by a deep gratitude for being unconditionally loved and accepted by God
Duty and earning God's favor or no motivation at all.	MOTIVE BEHIND CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES	Pleasure and delight
"Must" be holy to have God's favor, thus increasing a sense of shame and guilt	MOTIVE FOR PURITY	"Want to" be holy; do not want anything to hinder intimate relationship with God
Self-rejection from comparing yourself to others	SELF-IMAGE	Positive and affirmed because you know you have such value to God
Seek comfort in counterfeit affections: addictions, compulsions, escapism, busyness, hyper-religious activity	SOURCE OF COMFORT	Seek times of quietness and solitude to rest in the Father's presence and love
Competition, rivalry, jealousy toward other's success and position	PEER RELATIONSHIPS	Humility and unity as your value others and are able to rejoice in their blessings and success
Accusation and exposure in order to make yourself look good by making others look bad	HANDLING OTHERS' FAULTS	Love covers as you seek to restore others in a spirit of love and gentleness
See authority as a source of pain; distrustful toward them and lack a heart attitude of submission	VIEW OF AUTHORITY	Respectful, honoring; you see them as ministers of God for good in your life
Difficulty receiving admonition; you must be right so you easily get your feelings hurt and close your spirit to discipline	VIEW OF ADMONITION	See the receiving admonition as a blessing and need in your life so that your faults and weaknesses are exposed and put to death
Guarded and conditional; based upon other's performance as you seek to get your own needs met	EXPRESSION OF LOVE	Open, patient and affectionate as you lay your life and agendas down in order to meet the needs of others
Conditional and distant	SENSE OF GOD'S PRESENCE	Close and intimate
Bondage	CONDITION	Liberty
Feels like a servant/slave	POSITION	Feels like Son/Daughter
Spiritual ambition; the earnest desire for some spiritual achievement and distinction and the willingness to strive for it; a desire to be seen and counted among the mature	VISION	To daily experience the Father's unconditional love and acceptance and then be sent as a representative of His love to family and others
Fight for what you get	FUTURE	Sonship releases your inheritance

Source: shilohplace.org / All Are Precious in His Sight

## Through The Bible: Luke 8-18

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The Orphan	The Child of God
I will not leave you as orphans.. (John14:18)	But he has given us the Spirit of sonship and by him we cry, 'Abba, Father!' (Rom 8:15)
Feels alone, Lacks a vital daily intimacy with God. Is full of self-concern.	Has growing assurance that 'God is really my loving heavenly Father.'
Anxious over felt needs: relationships, money, health. "I'm all alone and nobody cares. I'm not a happy camper."	Trusts the Father and has a growing confidence in his loving care. Is being freed up from worry.
Lives on succeed/fail basis. Needs to "look good" and "be right." Is performance-oriented.	Learning to live in daily, conscious, partnership with God. Is not fearful.
Feels condemned, guilty, and unworthy before God and others.	Feels love, forgiven, and totally accepted because Christ's merit really clothes him.
Has little faith, lots of faith in himself: "I've got to fix it."	Has a daily working trust in God's sovereign plan for her life as loving, wise, and best. Believes God is good
Labors under a sense of unlimited obligation. Tries too hard to please. Burns out.	Prayer is the first resort: "I'm going to ask my Daddy first," Cries "Abba, Father!"
Rebellious, resists authority. Heart is hard. Is not easily teachable.	Has strength to be submissive. Has soft (broken and contrite) heart. Is teachable.
Defensive, Can't listen well. Bristles at the charge of being self-righteous (thus proving the point)	Open to criticism since she consciously stands in Christ's perfection, not her own. Is able to examine her unbelief.
Needs to be right, safe and secure. Unwilling to fail. Unable to tolerate criticism. Can only "handle" praise.	Able to take risk and even fail, since his righteousness is in Christ. Needs no "record" to boast in, protect, or defend.
Excessively self-confident or self loathing. Discouraged, defeated, Lacks spiritual power.	Confident in Christ and encouraged because of the Holy Spirit's work in her.
Tends toward an "I can do it myself!" attitude. Is strong-willed, driven.	"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength!"
Unbelieving effort. Relies only on his gifts to get by in ministry.	Trusting less in self and more on the Holy Spirit – a daily, conscious, reliance.

Source: Stew Rd

## Through The Bible: Luke 8-18

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SLAVERY/ORPHAN MINDSET	SONSHIP MINDSET
<b>Victim</b> – “Whoa is me”, I am powerless, helpless	<b>Overcomer</b> – more than conquerors, I can do all things;
<b>Poverty</b> – Expectation of lack, take what you can get because you don’t have a Father looking out for you.	<b>Abundance</b> – I have the riches of Christ, a wealthy and generous Father and His Spirit inside with unlimited wisdom and resource in every situation.
<b>Comparison</b> – my value is based on being more or less than someone else, leads pride “I am awesome or I am a loser”	<b>Family</b> – Father gives me value and affirmation therefore I can celebrate you/others
<b>Competition</b> – I need to be the best to be blessed or have more value	<b>Team</b> - I am with you and for you or lose because we are in this together, your success is my success.
<b>Performance</b> – striving because my worth is based on how well I do, the pressure us on me but right works don’t produce a right heart, relationship performance driven	<b>Rest</b> – “It is finishes”, you have been made righteous and enough in Christ, his yoke is easy, just say ‘yes’ and obey and let him handle the results, a right heart produces right works, relationships driven by love.
<b>God is Distant</b> – He tolerates me in my weakness and imperfection	<b>God is Near</b> – Father loves being with me and I bring delight to Him and His child.
<b>Always Fall Short</b> – I don’t measure up and deserve punishment	<b>Always in Line for Blessing</b> – Christ fully measured up and gave His right standing to me – by His merit, Father wants to bless me, trained and disciplined not punished.
<b>Condemnation</b> – I am bad and I need to keep distance until I improve my performance	<b>Conviction</b> – “I am always drawing you closer and am committed to removing everything in your life that hinders love!”
<b>Work to be someone</b> – slave is accepted by his performance.	Work because I am someone – I am a son/daughter with favor, resources and influence and I make a difference.
<b>Fear</b> – I am all alone and without help or protection. I am tolerated at best.	<b>Confidence</b> – You are with me and for me and will see me through, at home in Father’s love. I am celebrated by the Father.

Source: God Renews Us / godrenews.us