

# 6 - Luke 10:1-12:48 — Announcing the Kingdom with Generosity

Luke: Searching for Truth, Finding Jesus

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## Luke 10:25–37 NLT

<sup>25</sup> One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup> The man answered, “ ‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” <sup>28</sup> “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!” <sup>29</sup> The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. <sup>31</sup> “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. <sup>32</sup> A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. <sup>34</sup> Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’ <sup>36</sup> “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. <sup>37</sup> The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

## RECAP:

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- Many have set out... (many are curious about Jesus) - Luke believed he fulfilled something though
- Repentance: the power and message of John the Baptist - John prepared the way by calling people to a who change of thinking and attitude away from the world and toward God in preparation for Jesus - getting right in relationships.

- The launch of the ministry of Jesus: baptism, temptation, genealogy, and prophecy (Isaiah 61:1-2)
- The upside-down Kingdom of Jesus (a total reversal of our default value systems in this world)
- Jesus begins to show that He is the new Moses who will lead a new people of God to freedom, but through giving up their own way of doing things and experiencing a sort of death to their own self-will every day, and following Jesus in Humble faith.

## ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS

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Now we find ourselves in an important transition in the narrative. It says in 9:51 that Jesus “resolutely set out for Jerusalem.” Tim Mackie sums up this important section this way:

In the large center section of the book (Luke 9:51-19:27), Jesus leads his newly formed Israel on a journey to Jerusalem for Passover (Luke 9:51). This part of the book consists mainly of Jesus' teaching and parables given "on the road" to people he encounters, mostly his growing group of disciples. In this way, Luke portrays following Jesus as a journey, in which you learn as you go along life's path.

Now Jesus chooses 72 other disciples and sends them out

## JESUS SENDS OUT HIS DISCIPLES (LUKE 10:1-20)

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### Luke 10:1–4 NLT

<sup>1</sup> The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. <sup>2</sup> These were his instructions to them: “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. <sup>3</sup> Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. <sup>4</sup> Don’t take any money with you, nor a traveler’s bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don’t stop to greet anyone on the road.

### Luke 10:18–20 NLT

<sup>18</sup> “Yes,” he told them, “I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning! <sup>19</sup> Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you. <sup>20</sup> But don’t rejoice because evil spirits obey you; rejoice because your names are registered in heaven.”

### Luke 10:21–22 NLT

<sup>21</sup> At that same time Jesus was filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit, and he said, “O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, thank you for hiding these things from those who think themselves wise and clever, and for revealing them to the childlike. Yes, Father, it pleased you to do it this way.

<sup>22</sup> “My Father has entrusted everything to me. No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

Tim Mackie gives a powerful summary of what Luke is helping us see about Jesus:

Jesus invites his disciples into his mission as he sends a wave of them to travel further ahead, announcing God's kingdom. Luke is showing us that being a disciple, from the beginning, meant participating in the kingdom mission of Jesus and making it your own.

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### THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMANDMENT + THE GOOD SAMARITAN

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**Luke 10:25–29 NLT**

<sup>25</sup> One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup> The man answered, “ ‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” <sup>28</sup> “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!” <sup>29</sup> The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

**Luke 10:41–42 NLT**

<sup>41</sup> But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! <sup>42</sup> There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.”

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### TEACHING ON PRAYER: THE LORD’S PRAYER + NEVER GIVING UP IN PRAYER

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**Luke 11:1–5 NLT**

<sup>1</sup> Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup> Jesus said, “This is how you should pray: “Father, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day the food we need, <sup>4</sup> and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation.” <sup>5</sup> Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him,

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### THE PRINCE OF DEMONS + THE SIGN OF JONAH

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#### Luke 11:14–18 NLT

<sup>14</sup> One day Jesus cast out a demon from a man who couldn't speak, and when the demon was gone, the man began to speak. The crowds were amazed, <sup>15</sup> but some of them said, "No wonder he can cast out demons. He gets his power from Satan, the prince of demons." <sup>16</sup> Others, trying to test Jesus, demanded that he show them a miraculous sign from heaven to prove his authority. <sup>17</sup> He knew their thoughts, so he said, "Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A family splintered by feuding will fall apart. <sup>18</sup> You say I am empowered by Satan. But if Satan is divided and fighting against himself, how can his kingdom survive?"

#### Luke 11:29 NLT

<sup>29</sup> As the crowd pressed in on Jesus, he said, "This evil generation keeps asking me to show them a miraculous sign. But the only sign I will give them is the sign of Jonah."

#### The ESV Study Bible Chapter 11

11:29 The account in vv. 29–32 answers the request of v. 16 from those who were testing Jesus by seeking a cosmic sign, in spite of already having seen many miracles. For evil generation, see notes on 7:31–34 and Matt. 12:39. no sign will be given. For the meaninglessness of a sign when hearts are hardened, cf. Luke 16:31; John 12:9–11. The sign of Jonah refers first to Jonah's "three days and nights in the belly of the great fish" (cf. note on Matt. 12:40), which foreshadows "the Son of Man" being "three days and three nights in the heart of the earth," i.e., a reference to Jesus' death and resurrection (cf. Luke 16:30–31). Additionally, "the sign of Jonah" draws attention to the need for a concrete response of repentance, as was the case of Nineveh in response to Jonah's message.

So many signs had already been given... what's the point of giving more signs when the hearts seeing them are so hard? The only sign that will be given is the sign of Jonah: just as Jonah was in the belly of a fish three days and three nights and then miraculously came back out of the sea into the land of the living, so Jesus as the son of man will be three days and nights in a tomb and then raise again. If they want another sign, they can have that one... and its a pretty excellent one if you ask me.

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#### RECEIVING THE LIGHT — THE LAMP + THE EYE

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#### Luke 11:33–36 NLT

<sup>33</sup> "No one lights a lamp and then hides it or puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house. <sup>34</sup> "Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light. But when it is unhealthy, your body is filled with darkness. <sup>35</sup> Make sure that the light you think you

have is not actually darkness. <sup>36</sup> If you are filled with light, with no dark corners, then your whole life will be radiant, as though a floodlight were filling you with light.”

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### JESUS CRITICIZES THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS

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#### Luke 11:39–42 NLT

<sup>39</sup> Then the Lord said to him, “You Pharisees are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and wickedness! <sup>40</sup> Fools! Didn’t God make the inside as well as the outside? <sup>41</sup> So clean the inside by giving gifts to the poor, and you will be clean all over. <sup>42</sup> “What sorrow awaits you Pharisees! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore justice and the love of God. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.

#### Luke 11:45–46 NLT

<sup>45</sup> “Teacher,” said an expert in religious law, “you have insulted us, too, in what you just said.” <sup>46</sup> “Yes,” said Jesus, “what sorrow also awaits you experts in religious law! For you crush people with unbearable religious demands, and you never lift a finger to ease the burden.

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### JESUS WARNS AGAINST HYPOCRISY

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#### Luke 12:1–3 NLT

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, the crowds grew until thousands were milling about and stepping on each other. Jesus turned first to his disciples and warned them, “Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees—their hypocrisy. <sup>2</sup> The time is coming when everything that is covered up will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. <sup>3</sup> Whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be shouted from the housetops for all to hear!

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### PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL + JESUS’ TEACHING ON MONEY + POSSESSIONS

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#### JESUS CONFRONTS GREED AND TEACHES THE PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL:

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#### Luke 12:13–21 NLT

<sup>13</sup> Then someone called from the crowd, “Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father’s estate with me.” <sup>14</sup> Jesus replied, “Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?” <sup>15</sup> Then he said, “Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a story: “A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. <sup>17</sup> He said to himself, ‘What should I do? I don’t have room for all my crops.’ <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I know! I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I’ll have room enough to

store all my wheat and other goods. <sup>19</sup> And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!" ' <sup>20</sup> "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' <sup>21</sup> "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

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### MONEY + POSSESSIONS FOLLOWING JESUS:

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#### Luke 12:22–23 NLT

<sup>22</sup> Then, turning to his disciples, Jesus said, "That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food to eat or enough clothes to wear. <sup>23</sup> For life is more than food, and your body more than clothing.

#### Luke 12:31–34 NLT

<sup>31</sup> Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need. <sup>32</sup> "So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom. <sup>33</sup> "Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. <sup>34</sup> Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Tim Mackie says this about this whole section and some of the essential themes:

As Jesus' disciples come back, he starts to give various teachings about prayer (Luke 11:1-13) and trusting in God's provision (Luke 12:1-12). It's in this section of Luke that Jesus talks about money, possessions, and generosity more than anywhere else (Luke 12:13-31, 16, and 18:18-30). If following him is truly like being on the road, it should produce a minimalist mentality, creating a freedom from possessions that allows for radical generosity.

Jesus did not tell everyone to sell everything they had. He told some people to sell some and some people to sell all. What is clear in all of Jesus' teachings is that we have to face our greed for more and our distrust in God. A discipline He gives here is to detach from possessions and give to those in need — both for their sake and for ours.

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### EXAMEN AND APPLY

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1. What might I be obsessing about that is getting in the way of me seeing God?
2. What might I need to give up or detach from in order to help those in need around me?
3. What might I need to let go of so that I can be free to seek God first?

4. Who is in need around me that God has made a way for me to help?

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BE READY FOR THE LORD'S COMING

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**Luke 12:35–36 NLT**

<sup>35</sup> “Be dressed for service and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> as though you were waiting for your master to return from the wedding feast. Then you will be ready to open the door and let him in the moment he arrives and knocks.

1. If this was the end here in this season, would you be ready? Am I ready?
2. If we see Him blazing through the sky are we overjoyed running outside calling out to Him or are we sheepish?
3. What do you need to do to change that? What might God be putting His finger on in your life to clean the “inside of the cup today?”
4. Are we Mary sitting with expectation focused on Jesus, or are we Martha right now — so absorbed in the anxiety and overwhelmed by details that we are missing Him?