

Lesson 5

Luke 5

Jesus' Ministry in Galilee

1. When Chapter 5 begins, Jesus was near Lake Gennesaret, also called the Sea of Galilee. Compare Luke's call of the first four disciples (Luke 5:1-11) to the same story in Matthew (4:18-22). Name at least three things Luke reports that Matthew does not.
2. Luke makes the calling of the first four disciples a dramatic event. (Luke 5:1-11)
 - a. What is Jesus' apparent purpose in getting into Simon's boat? (Luke 5:1-3)
 - b. What does Jesus do after he finishes teaching the people on the shore? (Luke 5:4)
 - c. Why does Simon at first refuse to take his boat out again? (Luke 5:5)
 - d. Even though the boat is sinking, what does Simon do? (Luke 5:8)

Note: *Leprosy was an infectious skin disease that was damaging to Jews in three ways. (1) Physically, the disease could be painful and sometimes fatal. (2) Socially, the Law required lepers to be quarantined outside of Israelite society. (3) Religiously, lepers were ritually unclean and thus unable to participate in worship.*

3. The leper seemed very confident about Jesus' power to heal him by saying to Jesus, "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean." (Luke 5:12)
 - a. What did the leper do to be cured? (Luke 5:12-13)
 - b. What three things did Jesus command him to do after being healed? (Luke 5:14)
 - c. Why do you think Jesus would give these commands? (see Lev 14:1-20)
4. Luke tells us that Jesus frequently escaped the crowds and went to deserted places to pray. (Luke 5:16) Why do you think Jesus would need to pray?
5. Based on whose faith did Jesus perform the miracle of healing the paralytic? (Luke 5:18-20)
6. Scribes and Pharisees witnessed the healing of the paralytic. Why did they accuse Jesus of blasphemy? (Luke 5:20-22)
7. How does Jesus respond to the accusations of the Jewish leaders? (Luke 5:22-26)
8. Luke gives a very short version of the call to Levi, whom we know as Matthew, one of Jesus' twelve apostles. (Luke 5:27)
 - a. Why do you think tax collectors were despised by Jews? (Luke 19:1-10)
 - b. What did Jesus do that outraged the Jewish leaders? (Luke 5:29-30)
 - c. How did Jesus respond to the criticism of his disciples by the Jewish leaders? (Luke 5:31)
9. Explain why Jesus used an analogy to defend why his disciples did not fast. (Luke 5:33-35)
10. What was Jesus' point in both the parable of the old and new cloth as well as the old and new wine and wineskins? In Jesus' mind, what was the new wine? (Luke 5:36-39)

If you would like a challenge?

11. Jesus was often criticized for ministering to individuals and groups viewed as "sinners" such as tax collectors, prostitutes, drunkards, as well as "outcasts" suffering from leprosy and other isolating diseases. This kind of criticism is also sometimes leveled today at Christians who minister to disenfranchised groups seen as standing outside of God's grace. Is this faithful to Jesus and the Gospel?