NOW IS THE TIME: Luke
A TWENTY-FIVE DAY JOURNEY
Scripture Engaged Is Scripture Lived!

God’s Word is not meant just to inform us, but transform us. We are called to put God’s Word into practice – to become ‘doers of the Word’ – to live God’s Word. The Luke 4 Assignment is an application exercise for you and your group to put the Word of God into practice.

Jesus said: “The Lord’s Spirit has come to me, because he has chosen me to tell the good news to the poor. The Lord has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to free everyone who suffers, and to say, ‘This is the year the Lord has chosen.’” (Luke 4.18-19)

Jesus has called us to be his hands and feet in this world. We can do this by exemplifying Christ through our actions of loving and serving those around us the best way we know how.

As the Luke 4 Champion for your small group, community, or organization, review the project examples and ideas below and choose with your group the project you will carry out.

1. Volunteer through CityServe to prepare and plan a localized outreach that shares the gospel message. Visit www.nycityserve.org
2. Help eliminate homelessness and hunger in your community by partnering with organizations like CityServe. (www.nycityserve.org)
3. Work with local schools in your community to help develop partnerships that provide college pathways and mentoring programs for students. Visit www.nycityserve.org to get involved.
4. Sponsor a child through Compassion International or World Vision. (www.compassion.com or www.worldvision.org)
5. Host a knitting party. Knit sweaters for children and mail your sweaters to World Vision’s “Knit for Kids” program. More information is available at: www.knitforkids.org
6. Volunteer with a prison ministry such as Prison Fellowship. (www.prisonfellowship.org)
8. Go to www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org/urgent_opportunities and see how you can help to fill their urgent need for volunteers.
9. Reach out to local InterVarsity staff at a college campus near you and ask about their urgent ministry needs. Find a local staff worker at: www.intervarsity.org/chapters

10. Cook and serve a meal at a local homeless shelter.

11. Start a Lectio Divina prayer group at your church. For resources go to www.americanbible.org/bible-ministry/catholic-resources


13. Participate in the “2 Weeks of Sacrifice” program by drinking tap water instead of purchasing beverages. Donate the money you would have spent to Blood: Water Mission. For more information, visit www.bloodwatermission.com


15. Ask your mayor or a city official about your community’s greatest needs and what you can do to address them.

16. Cook a meal for an individual or family who is sick, recovering from surgery, recently had a baby, etc.

17. Contact your local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) chapter to ask how you can serve veterans in your community. (www.vfw.org)

18. Make cards for seniors in a nursing home or convalescent facility.

19. Volunteer to spend time with children at a local YMCA or Boys & Girls Club.

20. Mow the grass or clean up the yard for your neighbor.

21. Call your church and ask about their greatest needs. Offer to help.

22. Offer to babysit for a neighbor so that they can have a date night.

23. Collect unused make-up, perfume, and other cosmetics for a center for abused women.

24. Volunteer at your library or local school to help a child learn how to read.

25. Assemble a new parent’s kit for the arrival of a newborn.

26. Bring comfort and relief to patients and caregivers by volunteering through a local hospice agency.

27. Teach classes or tutor those who are learning English as a second language.
28. Work with local officials to paint over graffiti in your city.

29. Contact the local fire and police department to find out how you can bless the servicemen and women in your community.

30. Write letters or create care packages for soldiers who are serving overseas.

31. Collect backpacks and school supplies to give to children of families who can’t afford them.

32. Bake some cookies for a neighbor that you haven’t met as a means of introducing yourself.

33. Create hygiene kits (toothbrush & toothpaste, shampoo, etc.) and give them to homeless individuals or families in your community.

34. Contact your city’s juvenile court system and offer to mentor an adolescent on probation.

35. Get in touch with your local Habitat for Humanity chapter about helping them build houses for those in need. Visit www.habitat.org

36. If your community doesn’t have a food bank, work with local officials to start one.

37. Host or participate with a vocational training facility for community members out of work.

38. Volunteer at a local agency that works with children with disabilities.

39. Help a neighbor make repairs to their property or home that they are unable to do themselves.

40. Sign up to serve as a “Big Brother” or “Big Sister.” Visit www.bbbs.org

41. Clean up trash at a park, beach, or river.

42. Contact a local school principal to find out how you can best serve their school.

43. Spend time visiting with seniors in a nursing home or assisted living facility.

44. Look at your city’s community events calendar, pick an event, and find out how you can serve there.

45. Offer to pick up groceries for a senior citizen.

46. Make “Get Well” cards for kids in a local children’s hospital.

47. Get permission from city officials to paint a community mural.
48. Put together a clothing drive to benefit people in need.

49. Help fix a run-down playground.

50. Use your computer or social media skills to teach a class or tutor those who want to learn.

51. Contact your local church and offer to help with their food bank.

52. Collect money and honor your ministry leaders by offering to send them to a conference or retreat such as Movement Day. (www.movementday.com)


54. Replace your traditional summer vacation with a family mission trip.

55. Take an eight-week Scripture-based journey about poverty and justice provided by American Bible Society. Consider becoming a “Sister Advocate” to raise awareness and funds for women who are suffering in the Great Lakes region of Africa. Visit sister.americanbible.org for free resources and more information.

56. Get in contact with Catholic Relief Services’ University Program to connect your college campus and community to global issues of social justice. (www.crscollege.org)

57. Invite a speaker from Catholic Relief Services’ Global Fellows to your parish or community to educate everyone about the world’s poor and what can be done. (globalfellows.crs.org)


59. Begin to shop responsibly by learning about Catholic Relief Services’ Fair Trade Program in order to help poor farmers, artisans, and laborers overseas. (www.crsfairtrade.org)

60. Go to www.catholicvolunteering.org and find an organization near you to volunteer in an area that matches your skill set.

61. Collect money and honor your ministry leaders by offering to send them to a conference such as New York Catholic Bible Summit. Visit www.nyfaithformation.org for more information.

62. Contact your local church and offer to help mend or clean clothing items for their clothing distribution program.
63. Volunteer with your local Red Cross to contribute to your community and help change lives. 
   (www.redcross.org/support/volunteer)

64. Find the nearest Special Olympics Office near you and volunteer your time as a coach, official, or event helper at the next Special Olympics. (www.specialolympics.org)

65. Join a team of athletes who run, swim, or pedal in support of Doctors Without Borders. 
   (http://events.doctorswithoutborders.org)