

## **Weekender Slide**

## **Luke Series Slide**

### **Title Slide: "Out of the Gray: How to Escape the Spiritually Middle-Class"- Luke 4:14-44**

#### **4:43-44**

#### **4:1-30**

#### **Stop at 16**

HOLY SPIRIT- Extraordinary into the ordinary (Don't miss church!)

#### **Stop at 19**

This is basically a church service

Why this passage- From Isaiah 61- Messiah's Jubilee 7x7- 7 x 70 - Daniel 70 weeks. In other words- the great and final jubilee. The Ultimate Freedom- Salvation.

Jesus cuts off the Isaiah quote.

Doesn't mean judgment not important.

It means in this coming- he's come not to condemn, but to save.

In his second coming- he's coming with purifying judgment

People in desperate situations- and suddenly-they are free.

ILLUS- Ever wake up from a nightmare?

Now- Also note- The Good News here is not necessarily personal...individual... like we often make it. Its corporate. Its a about the Lord and a People. Its a bout a Kingdom. That's why we have to be careful about only making the gospel a sort of personal individual invitation- and not a proclamation of the Joy of New Creation. Its an announcement- THE KING IS HERE...and the KING IS COMING. The Kingdom is here... there's a way to taste it now...and the full meal is also coming.

**"The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets, before we reach the heavenly fields or walk the Golden Streets"- Isaac Watts**

**Stop at 21**

Rabbi Stand up to read the Scroll  
Then sit down to explain.  
Jesus just drops the mic- "I'm HIM"

**Stop at 22**

"Words about Grace"- undeserved favor- Unearned Gifts  
At first they love it- Why?

Because they believe he's talking about them/  
They see themselves as the recipient

They said, "We're good people. We are moral people. We're hardworking people. We believe the Bible. We come together every week to study it. We try our best to obey God, but we are under the thumb of a foreign power, bad people, immoral people, sexually loose people, idol worshipers, heretics, foreigners. Some day the Messiah will come. What's he going to do? Well, of course he is going to lead the good people to triumph over the bad people. I mean, we're the prisoners. We're the oppressed. We're the poor. We're the ones who don't have self-government. We're the ones who are taxed into the ground. We're the one who don't have sovereignty of our state. Therefore, when he comes, he is going to save us."

They don't understand the gospel ...we know this because they like his sermon

If you've never found the gospel message offensive...you've probably never really "Heard" it

**Stop at 23**

Out of chronological order- Luke is setting us up to understand the healings he is about to explain.

Jesus sees through their excitement. Which constantly says "Prove yourself to me!"

Doctor Heal Yourself- is similar to what he will hear on the cross- If you are so powerful...do the powerful thing and save yourself.

## **Stop at 27**

Explain Widow of Zarapheth- 1 Kings 17

Outsider-poor

gentile, desperate, before a sign could be performed- she obeyed. She trusted- sacrificed. Eventually- her dead son was raised.

Explain Namaan- 2 Kings 5

Outsider- rich

Successful gentile. - part of the oppressors

Assumed that Blessing could be bought.

Elisha turns him away every time.

He wants a King to heal him based on his reputation and wealth

But Until he bathes in the Jordan River- common, dirty, Jordan River- remember the same one JtB baptizing in when John confronted the pharisees fro their lack of repentance

Namaan does- then he comes back to Elisha begging to give- but Elisha turns him down...so he scoops up some dirt...to take it back to his city...so when he worships the gods of his people- instead he can actually be worshipping YHWH- He is ready to sacrifice and risk for this God who heals not based on what you bring- but only when you are ready to humble yourself.

## **Stop at 30**

From amazed to enraged.

Why? They have just realized he's not talking about them.

That this good news has been offered to their enemies.

Also- they want they don't want to be low. they don't want humility. They don't want sacrifice. they don't want spiritual poverty.

They want the Kingdom without the King.

Like us- we want the amazing things God offers- Spiritual Wealth...without the authority he excercises in our lives- and the humility that brings.

For Example:

You want community and friendship..

You don't want commitment and accountability

But True Community requires commitment...and true friendship requires accountability.

You know what that is called- Spiritual Middle Class. thats what these folks are...and we are experiencing and EPIDEMIC.

## CHART

You get the healing...you get up TO serve

Spiritual poverty- I can only be saved through a gift

Grace- Charis- Gift

This is the input given toward SPIRITUAL POVERTY

I don't have it, but I'm given it.

upside down kingdom

Slave girl and Namaan

End of the rope- Resurrection

8- Conduit of the gospel- those who are willing to be spiritually & Economically poor

Give it away- SPiritual Wealth

Grit- Courage, Resolve, Strength of Character

Ability to get things done

Sometimes, despite "talent" level

Talent is CHARIS- Gift

Then talk about Gray- include Angry, cynical. Won't believe Jesus.

We do both at the same time.

## 1 Corinthians 15:9-11

**9 For I am the least of the apostles, not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, yet not I, but the**

**grace of God that was with me. 11 Whether, then, it is I or they, so we proclaim and so you have believed.**