

SRT

Summit Collab

Luke Series Slide

Somewhere close to 800 years before Christ, a guy named Homer wrote some pretty remarkable poetry- a pair of Greek poems called “Iliad & the Odyssey”.

The Iliad is about the 10 year Trojan war, where the Greeks defeated the citizens of Troy.

The Odyssey is different, though. Its not about the war. Its about a hero’s quest to get HOME.

- Pretty poetic that its written by a guy named Homer.

Here’s the 2 minute synopsis of Homer’s Odyssey:

- Odysseus is the King of Ithaca, an Island off the coast of Greece.
- In those days, the kings led their armies into battle, so Odysseus is also the leader of the Greek army from Ithaca.
- After the Greeks triumph in Troy, Odysseus goes MIA. Its been 10 years since the Trojan war, and everybody back home in Ithaca has written him off as dead. Except his wife Penelope and his son (Tail-AM-uh-cuss) Telemachus.
- Even though they still want to believe their husband and dad is alive, they don’t know that Odysseus is desperately trying to get home.
- But he’s got Greek gods and monsters trying to keep him from getting there. They are causing terrible things to happen to him and trying to wreck his ship or tempt him to make his home on some other island.
- Meanwhile, back home in Ithaca, there are all these men who are trying to convince Odysseus’ wife Penelope to marry them. They are called “the Suitors”
- The Suitors are saying to Penelope “Your husband is dead. He’s not coming home. Marry one of us.”
- But Penelope waits. Hoping against hope that Odysseus will find his way home.
- Finally, against all odds, and **disguised as a beggar**, Odysseus makes it back to Ithaca.
- Where in disguise...he competes in an archery contest for the right to marry Penelope (who he’s already married to), and he wins. After his victory, he

throws off his disguise and uses the remainder of his arrows to kill all of the Suitors who tried to get at his wife.

- Odysseus is the hero and he finally makes it home to his wife and son.

It's a great story.

But it's not the last of its kind.

Here's something I've noticed in stories that we love.

- The great epic stories we love...they rarely end with the battle won.
- Every Illiad needs an Odyssey.
- Every war victory needs the homecoming that follows.
- We don't just want to know that the hero won...we want to know he made it home to his wife and son.
- The most satisfying stories don't end with the victor standing on the battlefield, but gathered around the supper table with his family.

You know, most of the deaths that occur on Mt. Everest don't happen on the way up. They happen on the way down. Often because people are focused on getting to the top...and they've never prepared for getting home.

The way the Bible describes the world we live in is a time between Jesus first coming- and his second coming.

Jesus first came on a mission to save us. And he accomplished that by dying in our place for our sin on a cross. Now- for those that believe that, we are both on our way home. The outcome of the battle is already decided.

But we aren't home yet. The Christian is a lot like Odysseus.. In a time between the winning of the war, and the arrival home.

Philippians 3:20

Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ

Ephesians 6:11-12

Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens

Ephesians 6:18

Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.

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Title Slide “Getting Home: How Jesus Taught Us to Pray”- Luke 11:1-4

Today, as we pick back up in Luke’s gospel- I want to show you a familiar passage through a lens you may not have considered before.

Jesus taught us to pray, not only as a way to get home...but as a way to bring HOME into the war.

Luke 11:1-4

He was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples.”

2 He said to them, “Whenever you pray, say,

Father,

your name be honored as holy.

Your kingdom come.

3 Give us each day our daily bread.

4 And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves also forgive everyone

in debt to us.

And do not bring us into temptation.”

Jesus came saying his Kingdom was CLOSE... It was at hand...nearby...at the same time he talked about it not yet here.

In other words- Jesus, is teaching us in this prayer- that we aren't home yet...stay alert. While also teaching us to pray home RIGHT into the remaining battles.

Keep the big picture in mind...while also knowing he's close with you-

This is immanence...and transcendence. Its Jesus saying- God is with you in the daily details- and you are on your way to the big picture.

So lets go through each of these lines to see what we learn.

v 1-

Notice the disciples ask to be taught and Jesus doesn't say "That's stupid. You know how to talk right? Just talk to God. No...they ask to be taught...and Jesus models it for them.

Also interesting...at no point in this prayer does Jesus

- A) Thank the Father for who he is.
- B) Say "We just come to you today to pray"
- C) Say "Father God" over and over as a transitional statement.
- D) Thank God for this day.

Ordering at a drive thru the way we pray... And Cookout employee...I justI just want to order right now..

And- I just want to point out how short this prayer is.

Not that we don't have examples of Jesus praying for long periods of time...we do. But its interesting that when Jesus teaches a prayer...its so brief. Don't be hating on short prayers...

v 2-

He starts by teaching them to address God as Father. and he mentions God's name.

Immanence- Home and name- familiarity. A family member.

This is a reminder of the closeness of God. We haven't been left alone. We know his name- and we know our relationship to him.

When Moses in Exodus asks for God's name- he gives it to him YHWH. I am who I am. Moses it says, knew God face to face...as a friend. A special relationship.

Have you ever seen somebody you love in the middle of something hard you are going through? A competition.

ILLUS- Isaac sees Simon at his race- Smiles and says “Why you wearing my shirt?”
Every season of survivor when they get letters from home. or visit of a family member.
It always buoys them.

My dad in Desert Storm. Recording our meals on cassette tape to send to my dad.

Think about the difference in Calling him OUR commander in chief...and calling him
our FATHER...Access!

Hebrews 4:16-

Boldly approach to find mercy and grace to help in time of need.

v 2-

YOUR NAME AS HOLY....Set apart...TRANSCENDENCE.

This is the big picture. This is GET US HOME. I won't be satisfied with a letter. I want
what you want...what all the world was meant to do from creation.. I WANT EVERY
TRIBE TONGUE AND NATION TO KNOW YOU AS LORD!

And I want that in my life. Its both the familiarity of a family member as we battle
home...and the big picture mission to get there!

Then he says “Your Kingdom come”

In Matthew's gospel account of this prayer...this is followed by “Your Will Be Done”.

The first is the big picture- GET US HOME...rather...Bring home to us.

Heaven comes to us. He remakes the world. This is asking for God to hurry up and get
us home...in the meantime there is a settledness- Your Will be Done.

This is an end of day prayer. Clearly.. today I'm not home yet... but you haven't left me
alone. I trust you are still working. So whatever it is your doing.. I trust your timing.

v 3

Give us this day our daily bread.

there are 2 things going on here.

One is very immanent, very intimate, very Parental Care.

God is intimately involved with our daily needs.

Luke 12:30-32

For the Gentile world eagerly seeks all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

31 “But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you. 32 Don’t be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights to give you the kingdom

So look what Jesus says- Keep your focus on the GETTING HOME...not on your daily needs. If you focus is Kingdom Come- you’ll make it. God will provide. But if you get caught up in the worry of daily needs...and cut off Kingdom COME...that’s when you are susceptible to lose your way home.

That leads to the other thing going on- KINGDOM COME...

Luke 4:1-4

Then Jesus left the Jordan, full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness

2 for forty days to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over, he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”

4 But Jesus answered him, “It is written: Man must not live on bread alone.”

Luke 4:5-8

5 So he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 The devil said to him, “I will give you their splendor and all this authority, because it has been given over to me, and I can give it to anyone I want. 7 If you, then, will worship me, all will be yours.”

8 And Jesus answered him, “It is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”

There is the reality God is going to care for your daily needs....combined with the reality of his perfect timing...that won’t always seem perfect to us.

Where is your focus? Even this prayer for daily bread is about trust...trusting the Father for OUR NEEDS...in his BIG PICTURE TIMING.

ILLUS: Danger- mixing up Kingdom Come...with Daily Bread.

- But, when I'm on the road, when I'm traveling and I know I have to be somewhere...I'll eat stuff I'd NEVER eat at home. In fact, the whole experience is different.
- Several years ago..I used to preach at youth camps. One summer I was traveling home from a youth camp I preached at. I didn't have much supper, so I was hungry. It was about midnight and it was raining. So I desperately needed not only to fill my belly, but to have something to do so I didn't fall asleep.
- So, I started looking for fast food restaurants that were open at midnight. And, there, on the horizon, I saw it. Burger King.
- I pulled in and ordered a Whopper.
- It was dark in my car, so I couldn't see what I was eating, but I could feel it all over my hands.
- Ketchup and mayonnaise oozing down my thumbs...a beef patty that was off-center on a sesame seed bun with a terrible tomato.

ILLUS END

- I'll admit. It tasted good. I enjoyed it.
- But I gotta tell you...if I ate like that at home, I'd be terribly disappointed. In the dark, by myself, licking mayo & ketchup off my thumb...shoveling bites of mass produced beef-product into my mouth so it doesn't drop into my lap.
- That's not how I expect to eat at home.
- At home, dinner is supposed to be about more than dinner.
- Its supposed to be about conversations. Its about enjoying other people. Its about building a bond. Its about enjoying real food that's cooked in love...not mass produced food that's cooked to make a profit.
- At home, a meal is an experience that binds family together.
- On the road, a meal is trying to fill us up just enough to MAKE it home.
- Now, can you imagine mixing those up?
- Can you imagine in your car trying to cook a full homemade meal and have a family bonding experience? It would be a nightmare.
- Its hard enough to do that at home. (and let me just say, don't get some romantic picture of my life that every dinner at my house ends in us singing a hymn and saying what we're thankful for)...

- Or can you imagine this? Can you imagine if you so lowered your expectations for dinner at home that the best meal you ever experienced there came wrapped in paper?
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- No. What we expect from food at home...what we expect from our meals around the dinner table is entirely different from what expect on our trip home.

Luke 11:4a (End at “debt to us”)

There are 5 phrases that if they are said, and meant in without condition... without manipulation... in a relationship- I can guarantee the health of that relationship...

I love you
 Im proud of you
 Thank you

I'm sorry
 I forgive you

Immanent- He forgives us our sins...
 TRANSCENDENT- Stay in the war....forgive others.

Have you considered that one of the most powerful ways you act as Odysseus on the way home... that you are sure to make it sown off everest...is to forgive?

Charlie Kirk...Jimmy Kimmell.

Forgiveness. Opposite Blame.

This is the Cross of Jesus.

M Night Shymalan- Devil

Luke 11:4b **And do not bring us into temptation.**

If you want to lose a war, fight the wrong enemy.

“Deliver us from the evil one” in Matthew.

Meaning- our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the powers and principalities... its a spiritual battle.

The gist of this is not- keep me from suffering... Its not even "don't let me tested."...

Deliver me from what the devil would have me do.

Dont let me fail the test.

A million pounds of suffering cant hurt you. It cant destroy you...Set your goal on killing the sin in your life when you are tested.

You have 2 enemies... One outside...the other is inside. Yes the devil...yes the tempter... but the other is yourself. Your response to the temptation. DOn't waste your time fighting against the test... Cling to the Father in the test. And suffering can only make you more beautiful.

What do you hate more- your sin or your suffering?

"If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles...If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle."- Sun Tzu, Art of War

Back to 11:4b

Odysseus and the Sirens.... Tied to the mast. He knows his enemy outside, but even better he knows his enemy inside.

- at the end of the Bible, we get a vision of the coming Kingdom.
- And its not a vision of us walking up some staircase to the gates of heaven...Its not a long line of weary pilgrims finally arriving at a beautiful palace...
- No, it's a city coming down out of heaven.
- Its heaven coming to Earth.
- See, we don't pray in the Lord's prayer "Get me home"...we pray... "Kingdom COME"
- We pray, ON EARTH as it is in heaven. from Matthew.
- The promise is that God is making is to come back and renew us. To transform the Earth to our Heavenly home.
- Its to fix the brokenness of creation.

- ...but before that, he's fixing us.
- See, when we settle for Suitors, when we sell out for Sirens...we not only break God's heart...but as we distance yourself from him...we break too.
- ...and before God is fixing the world...he's fixing us.
- Do you know how he did that?
- Well, into the middle of our dark world, our brokenness, he sent bread from heaven.
- One day, Jesus fed 5,000 hungry people with a loaf of bread.
- And everybody began to chase Jesus asking him for more bread.
- But Jesus told them...I am the Bread of heaven.
- In other words, Jesus was saying, "you don't need your bellies full... you need your souls fixed."
- And I am the bread that the Father dropped from heaven into this wilderness to sustain you...to get you home.
- See, Jesus is the first time Heaven came to Earth.
- Jesus, is God in the flesh, the perfect son of God, who descended not just into our broken world, but also died in our place.
- On the cross, Jesus died an excruciating death in your place.
- That was our death to die.
- You and I are the ones who turned our ship to the sirens.
- We are the one who married the suitors before our husband was home.
- But, because of his promise and his steadfast love...Heaven came down....and tied itself to the mast...the cross of Jesus Christ.
- And when Jesus called out from Cross, "God why have you forsaken me..." they all mocked him saying God didn't hear his prayer.
- That the Father didn't give him what he needed.
- But that wasn't the case.
- Look what the writer of Hebrews says....
- **Hebrew 5:7**

- In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.
- When Jesus offered up his lamentations...when he cried to the FATHER... SAVE ME FROM DEATH!
- It appeared that the Father wasn't listening.
- It appeared he had lost the kingdom.
- It appeared the Father left him to starve.
- But look at that...it says "HE WAS HEARD...the Father DID save him from death..."
- See, on the third day, Jesus resurrected.
- Jesus ate our daily bread of death...so that we could eat his eternal bread of life...
- He died and resurrected so that our suffering would only be temporary...but eternally, we would inherit the Kingdom only he deserved.
- Jesus Christ is the way the Father makes good on his promise to bring the Kingdom.
- And when we meditate, think about, read about, talk about what Jesus did in his life, death, and resurrection to save us...that's what sustains us til heaven comes down.
- See, the truth is, though sometimes we feel more like Odysseus trying to make our way home to heaven...we, the church, are Penelope. The Bride of Christ. Waiting for our Odysseus, our warrior King who has won the battle... to come home...to slay all our our suitors.
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- And Because in that wilderness, Jesus tied himself to the mast of his Father's promise...his reverent obedience is given to us as a gift.
- And he makes us a spotless bride ready to welcome home Our Warrior King...and all of the kingdom of Heaven he will bring with him.

Until then... we gather around a table together...Kind of a blend of the whopper in the car...and the family dinner.

Its not yet the meal we'll have in the Kingdom...but we do eat our Whopper in the car...TOGETHER.

Lamentations 3:19-23

**19 Remember my affliction and my homelessness,
the wormwood and the poison.**

**20 I continually remember them
and have become depressed.**

**21 Yet I call this to mind,
and therefore I have hope:**

**22 Because of the Lord's faithful love
we do not perish,
for his mercies never end.**

**23 They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness!**

HOW WILL YOU START PRAYING.

HEAR Journal on the app.