



Week of February 3, 2019

Luke 4:21-30

²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"

²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.

²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;

²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.

²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.

³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Note:

In the middle of verse 23: "*And you will say*" is simply not in the Greek. Without the phrase, the second half of the verse interprets the first; in the NRSV, the second half more or less stands apart from the first. The RSV translation does not insert that phrase, with the resulting translation of:

²³ *And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself;' what we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here also in your own country."*



Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

Gathering questions:

- A. Were you ever on a team of any kind? If so, what was your role?
- B. Discuss a time when you were either selected for something you wanted or overlooked for something you wanted. (e.g. auditioning for a school play, etc.)

Bible Study Questions:

1. Why do you think the people mention that Jesus is Joseph's son? What do you feel their attitude is toward Jesus and Joseph?
2. Why were the people of the synagogue enraged? Do you find that understandable?
3. Who provokes the confrontation? Why do you think it happened?
4. They wanted to hurl Jesus off the cliff, yet he "passed through the midst of them." How? Was this supernatural or do you see something else at work?
5. Which statement comes closer to how you feel and why:
 - a. "I feel like I'm at the center of God's love and attention.", or
 - b. "I feel overlooked by God."
6. React to the statement: "Charity begins at home."
7. Should churches do more local mission or distance mission? Why? What do you think Jesus would say?
8. What do you feel you need more of in order to be happier? What prevents you from feeling like you have more of it?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers for seeing abundance in our lives