

This Study Guide is based on a sermon by Dr. Joshua Mack. You will find the link to the sermon here.

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/sermoninfo.asp?sid=10241611422610>

Luke 9:10-17

Swahili

10 Wanafunzi waliporudi walimweleza Yesu yote waliyofanya. Akawachukua wakaenda peke yao mpaka mji mmoja uitwao Bethsaida. **11** Lakini watu wengi wakafahamu alipokwenda, wakamfuata. Akawa karibisha, akawafundisha tena kuhusu Ufalme wa mbinguni na akapo nya wangonjwa. **12** Ilipokaribia jioni, wale wanafunzi kumi na wawili wakamwambia Yesu, “Waruhusu watu hawa waondoke ili waweze kujitafutia chakula na mahali pa kulala katika vijiji na mashamba ya jirani kwa maana hapa tuko nyikani.” **13** Akawajibu, “Wapeni chakula.” Wakasema, “Tunayo mikate mitano tu na samaki wawili. Unataka tukanunue chakula cha kuwatosha watu wote hawa?” **14** Kwa kuwa walikuwapo wanaume wapatao elfu tano! Lakini Yesu akawaambia wanafunzi wake, “Waketisheni katika makundi ya watu hamsini-hamsini.” **15** Wakawaketisha wote. **16** Yesu akaichukua mikate mitano na wale samaki wawili, akatazama mbinguni, akavi bariki na kuvimega. Kisha akawapa wanafunzi wake wawagawie wale watu. **17** Kila mtu akala na kutosheka na vilipokusanywa vipande vilivyobaki, vilijaa vikapu kumi na viwili.

Zulu

10 Abaphostoli sebebuyile bamlandisa konke abakwenzileyo; wabathatha, wamuka nabo bebodwa ukuya emzini othiwa iBetsayida. **11** Kepha izixuku sezazi zamlandela; wazithakazela, wakhuluma kuzo ngombuso kaNkulunkulu, wabaphulukisa abaswela ukuphulukiswa. **12** Seliqala ukushona, beza kuye abayishumi nambili, bathi: “Bamukise abantu ukuba baye emizaneni nasezweni elizungezileyo, bangenise, bathole ukudla, ngokuba lapha sisendaweni eyihlane.” **13** Kepha wathi kubo: “Bapheni nina ukudla.” Bathi-ke: “Esinakho yizinkwa eziyisihlanu nezinhlanzi ezimbili kuphela ngaphandle kokuba siyobathengela bonke laba bantu ukudla.” **14** Ngokuba kwakukhona amadoda okungathi izinkulungwane eziyisihlanu. Wathi kubafundi bakhe: “Bahlaliseni ngezigaba ngamashumi ayisihlanu.” **15** Benze njalo, babahlalisa bonke. **16** Wazithabatha izinkwa eziyisihlanu nezinhlanzi ezimbili, wabheka ngasezulwini, wazibusisa, wazihlephula, wanika abafundi ukuba babele isixuku. **17** Badla, basutha bonke, kwabuthwa imvuthuluka eyasala kubo, iziqabetho eziyishumi nambili.

Shona

Sermon Summary:

Over the past several stories, Luke has been trying to get us thinking about the question, who is Jesus?

9:9

9:18

One reason this is an important question is because many people are confused about who Jesus actually is. For example, many people today, only think of Jesus as someone who can provide for their physical needs. This may be why they are sometimes confused when they come and hear us talk about Jesus, because we are not only talking about Jesus providing for our physical needs. Does this mean we don't think Jesus cares about these kinds of things?

No. Of course not. We believe Jesus does care about our physical needs, and that God has a plan to solve our physical problems and spiritual problems once and for all through Jesus. In fact one phrase that keeps coming up throughout the gospel to help us understand that plan is the phrase the kingdom of God.

The Bible tells us that God is going to establish a visible physical kingdom on earth that He rules through His chosen representative where Satan is bound, nature is restored, government works the way it should, and people are spiritually transformed.

We totally believe in that, it's just that we also believe we are not living in that kingdom right now and one of the questions Luke is writing to help us answer is why. If Jesus is this promised Messiah that is talked about in the Old Testament, then, why isn't sitting on the Davidic throne in Jerusalem ruling over this kingdom right now.

In the story we are looking at today, we'll see the problem isn't with Jesus. In verses 10-17, we see He has absolutely everything needed in a Messiah.

- 1.) **He cares deeply about His people's needs.**
- 2.) **He proved He was able to provide for their needs when it seems impossible, humanly speaking.**

If the reason the kingdom wasn't established wasn't because of any lack in Jesus, what then? We see in John's postscript to this story in John 6 that the problem ultimately was in the people's response. People want a Messiah they can use and not a Messiah they have to submit to. Miracles are fine, just not truth. They'll be excited about Jesus as long as he is doing what they want, so long as He doesn't ask them to do what He wants.

How about you?

Questions:

1. Have someone read Luke 8:25, 9:9, and 9:18. What is the basic question that is repeated in these verses? Why is this such an important question?

2. Sinclair Ferguson may help us here. He writes, "Many years ago now there was a scholarly movement that became known as "The Quest for the Historical Jesus." Scholars said "Let's try to get behind the Gospels to find out who Jesus really was, and what he was really like." So they took bits and pieces of the Gospel testimony and made a picture of Christ. One of the shrewdest things that was said about this movement was that these scholars were like people looking down a well to find Jesus, but didn't realize that the "Jesus" they saw was really just a reflection of themselves from the water at the bottom of the well! Sometimes I feel this is actually what has happened in popular evangelicalism. Our "Jesus" is actually a reflection of ourselves. This is the constant danger when we don't simply open the Scriptures and listen to their testimony about Jesus: we make a Jesus in our own image, usually domesticated. Sadly, much that dominates the Christian media seems to fall foul here. Any Jesus who isn't both Savior and Lord, Sacrificial Lamb of God and Reigning King, cannot be the Jesus of the Gospels. And any Jesus who does not call us to radical, sacrificial, and yes, painful, discipleship, cannot be the real Jesus." What danger does he identify? What are some ways people have reshaped Jesus into their own image?

3. Obviously one of the phrases that is important to understand if we are going to understand the biblical Jesus is kingdom of God. Last week we talked about the kingdom of God. Can anyone remember what the kingdom of God is? Now, the question is, if that is what the kingdom of God is, why aren't we living in it right now? Clearly, Jesus came and presented the kingdom of God to the nation of Israel and yet they rejected Him. But why? Luke wants us to see it wasn't because of a problem with Jesus and in this story in Luke 9:10-17, he gives us another glimpse of how absolutely perfect a Messiah Jesus really was. Let's read the story and be encouraged by Jesus' perfect sufficiency. (Have someone read these verses out loud.)

4. (You may have to look at some of the parallel accounts of this story to answer the following questions. See Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:32-44; and John 6:1-13) Why did Jesus withdraw with the disciples to Bethsaida? What does this tell us about Jesus? What had happened right before Jesus took the disciples to Bethsaida? What did the crowd do when they heard Jesus was going away? How big a crowd are we talking? What were their motives for following after Jesus like this? And how did Jesus respond when he saw this crowd and why? What does his response tell you about Jesus? What encouragement do you receive from seeing Jesus like this?

5. What problem comes up in this story? How do the disciples respond? What does that response tell you about them? How does Jesus respond differently? What resources do they have available to solve this problem? What is Jesus able to do with those resources? What does that tell you about Jesus? In your own words, simply explain why this story is amazing?

6. If Jesus cares about people's needs like this and if Jesus is able to provide for His people's needs like this, then we are still left with the question, why was the kingdom not established? Have someone read John's postscript on this story in John 6:22-71 (Gospel Community Leaders you can choose what verses you think are most helpful) and explain why people rejected Jesus after seeing all this? What warning do we learn from that?