

SLOW FOOD: LUKE 9:51-19:10

(39 studies)

Much of the material in this central portion of Luke's Gospel is unique to Luke, especially the majority of the parables and healing stories; however, he never quite abandons the synoptic sequence and parallels. The aim of this selection (Slow Food's first venture into the Gospels) is as before to concentrate on a single question and to apply it to our current situation – which is assumed to be, but doesn't have to be, connected to the teaching profession.

Useful commentaries include Michael Wilcock *The Message of Luke* (BST 1979); Tom Wright *Luke for Everyone* (SPCK 2001); Leon Morris *Luke* (Tyndale 1974); and longer works by Craig Evans, Norval Geldenhuys and Howard Marshall (Greek text).

Luke 9:51-56 Am I finding Christ's call impossibly tough? *Ps 81:10-16; Mk 10:28-31; Jn 6:60-69.*

Luke 10:1-16 'Holding the door open for God' (a definition of 'mission'). How can I do this? *1 Cor 16:19; Col 4:3; Rev. 3:8.*

Luke 10:17-24 When evil seems dominant, how can I find joy in the Lord's service? *Ps 91; 1 Pet 2:9-12.*

Luke 10:25-37 Which character in the story do I resemble most closely: the religious person, the practical helper or the victim? *Ex 23:4-5; 2 Chr 28:9-15; Gal 6:2-5, 9-10.*

Luke 10:38-42 Am I Martha, or Mary, or a bit of both (but not enough of either)? *Ps 37:3-8; Eccl 4:5-6; Phil 4:11-13.*

Luke 11:1-4 Does my prayer life need to get back to basics? *Jas 1:6-8, 13-18; 4:1-10; 5:13-20.*

Luke 11:5-8 Can I really march up to God and ask him for anything I like? *Lk 18:1-8; Eph 3:12; 1 Jn 5:14-15.*

Luke 11:9-13 Comparing this with Mt 7:7-11, what is the special thrust of Luke's version? *Gal 3:2-5, 14; 4:6-7; 5:5, 16-18, 22-25.*

Luke 11:14-28 Am I maintaining a neutrality towards evil in some area of my life? Am I prepared to let Christ deal with it? *Mk 5:1-20; Eph 5:8-20.*

Luke 11:29-36 If my contemporaries reject Christ, might one reason be that my life is not as transparent as it should be? *2 Cor 4; Phil 2:12-16a.*

Luke 11:37-54 If Jesus came to a meal in my house and freely spoke his mind, what hollowness might he expose in my apparently godly lifestyle? *Ps 50; 2 Cor 2:14-17.*

Luke 12:1-12 Am I more afraid of displeasing the world than of displeasing the Lord? *Col 1:9-14; 1 Th 4:1-8; 2 Pet 2:20.*

Luke 12:13-21 Do my possessions possess me? *Dt 8:10-14; Prov 8:10-11; Jas 4:13-16.*

Luke 12:22-34 Are Jesus' counsels on worry and wealth an ideal towards which I should strive, or an attitude without which I can't be his disciple? *Ps 73:1-3, 12, 21-26; Lk 8:14-15.*

Luke 12:35-48 Does Christ's teaching about watching for his return have any implications for my life and work today? *Rom 13:11-14; 1 Pet 1:13-16; 4:7; 5:8-9.*

Luke 12:49-59 Am I more concerned about tomorrow's weather or stock market reports than about the world crisis caused by Christ's (first) coming? *Jn 18:36-38a; 1 Pet 4:12-19; 1 Jn 2:15-17.*

Luke 13:1-9 What kind of God invites me to repent? *Dan 4:20-27; Lk 5:29-32; Ac 5:29-32.*

Luke 13:10-17 Is my use of 'the sabbath' governed by human requirements or by the releasing power of Christ? *Mk 2:27-28; Col 2:16-23.*

Luke 13:18-21 If little kingdom growth is apparent where I have been placed, should I conclude that God isn't blessing my work? *Isa 49:2-4; Hag 2:3-5; Zech 4:10; Mk 4:26-29; Jn 15:15-16.*

Luke 13:22-30 Is Jesus saying that if I try harder I can make sure of getting into heaven? *Rom 10:1-4; 2 Tim 2:19-22; 2 Pet 1:3-11.*

Luke 13:31-35 How much notice ought I to take of determined opposition from my contemporaries? *Lk 19:41-44; 1 Pet 3:13-17; Rev 2:8-11.*

Luke 14:1-6 How far should I allow the salvation love of Christ to overcome my proper religious or social scruples? *Ac 11:7-15; 1 Cor 9:19-23; Gal 2:11-21.*

Luke 14:7-14 Am I basically governed by the desire to impress people? *Mt 6:1-3; Gal 1:10; 1 Th 2:4-6.*

Luke 14:15-24 Do we seek God or does he seek us? *Isa 65:1-2, 8-10; Mt 13:44-46; Lk 19:3, 10; Ac 17:27.*

Luke 14:25-35 Does Jesus make following him sound harder than it really is? *Mt 11:28-30; Jn 1:35-39; 12:20-26; 1 Jn 5:3b.*

Luke 15:1-10 Do I have Christ's heart for the lost? *Jer 31:8-20; Ezek 34:5-16; Mt 9:36-38.*

Luke 15:11-32 Have I become so used to 'repentance' that the generosity of God has ceased to amaze me? *Ps 51:7-14; Isa 53:11; Hosea 14.*

Luke 16:1-15 What is my wealth for? *Prov 3:9-10; 11:24-26; 31:10-31.*

Luke 16:16-31 If Jesus means this parable to be taken seriously, how radically does it affect my attitude to (a) social justice (b) the doctrine of eternal punishment (c) evangelism (d) teaching the Bible? (This may require more than one session!) (a) *Dt 15:7-8; Mic 6:8; Mt 5:42* (b) *Ex 34:6-7; Nah 1:3a; Mt 25:46* (c) *Gen 3:9, 15; Jon 3; Mt 10:7-8* (d) *Dt 6:6-7; Hab 2:2-3; Mt 13:52.*

Luke 17:1-10 In these four disconnected sayings Jesus is teaching about fundamental issues of responsibility, forgiveness, faith and obedience. Is there an area here where my attitude needs correcting or my conscience awakening? *Jas 3:1-2; Eph 4:32; Mk 9:23; 1 Cor 4:1-5.*

Luke 17:11-19 Do I even dimly realise the ghastly condition from which Christ has graciously acted to rescue me? *Lk 7:47; 1 Cor 15:9-10; 1 Tim 1:12-14.*

Luke 17:20-37 'I've got enough to think about today, without having to worry about whether Jesus is coming back this afternoon.' Discuss. *1 Th 1:9-10; 2:12; 3:13; 5:1-11, 23.*

Luke 18:1-8 Is it unspiritual to badger God? *1 Ki 18:42-44; 2 Ki 13:18-19; 2 Cor 12:8; Eph 6:18-19.*

Luke 18:9-14 If pride in his own goodness is the special sin of the Pharisee, where do I stand? *Lk 5:8; Rom 4:2-3; 1 Cor 4:7.*

Luke 18:15-17 Am I too grown-up? *Ps 131; 1 Cor 1:26-31; 14:20.*

Luke 18:18-30 Where am I in this story? *Gen 22:1-2; Jn 8:32, 36; 1 Tim 6:17-19.*

Luke 18:31-34 Do I have problems understanding what discipleship really means? *Mt 16:21-27; Phil 3:15-16; Col 2:2-4.*

Luke 18:35-43 What prevents someone coming to Christ? *Jn 3:19-21; Eph 4:18; Rev 3:17.*

Luke 19:1-10 If I welcome Jesus into my house, will I lose anything? *Ps 34:10; Rom 8:31-39; Rev 3:20.*