



Reading through the New Testament—Week 11

March 19-25

Reading Plan available on
YouVersion Bible App
(QR Code).



Becoming more like Jesus—growing in His Word

One of the many things I (Pastor Goff) like about what we are doing this year in reading through the New Testament is that from time to time people will either send me an email to ask about something they are reading, or share with me a resource they have discovered. The more I hear about this, the more I'm convinced how rich an experience this is.

One resource recently shared with me is www.bibleref.com. As I looked through the information on this website related to the gospel of Luke, I notice they have limited commentary information on every chapter in Luke (they are adding additional information regularly). However, as I look ahead to John I see much more on the book of John. You may want to explore this resource alongside your daily reading.

This week we are reading from Luke 7-11. Having already read the gospels of Matthew and Mark, you may notice that the following are recorded only in Luke, and not one of the other gospel accounts:

- The raising of the widow's son (7:11-17)
- Rejection by the Samaritans (9:52-56)
- The parable of the good Samaritan (10:29-37)
- Jesus' visit to the home of Martha and Mary (10:38-42)
- The parable of the persistent friend (11:5-8)
- True blessedness (11:27-28)

Enjoy your reading in God's Word!

THIS WEEK'S SERMON OUTLINE

“Laboring and/or Listening”

Luke 10:38-42

Behavior or Personality Profiles

Jesus arrives at the home of Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38)

Luke 8:1-3 “After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, ² and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; ³ Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod’s household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.”

An “expert” in the law was an expert in the Law of _____

The parable of the good Samaritan showed not just _____ but also _____.

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22

Our _____ is to flow from our _____.

Our _____ is to lead to our _____.






Consider this week:

1. How are you creating space in your life to listen to Jesus (by reading God’s Word)?
2. Is it easy for you to be distracted? If so, how can you manage that to more effectively listen to/read God’s Word?
3. In what ways is your hearing or reading from God impacting what you are doing in your life (i.e., in your personal life, your family, where you work, your church involvement, etc.)?

Because Jesus **listened** to His Father, He **labored** for _____.

New Testament in a Year—March 19-25

Luke

Chapter 7  8  9  10  11 

Additional Reflections from this week's reading

Chapter 7: The story of how Jesus raises the widow's son in 7:11-17 resembles the one in 2 Kings 4:8-32. What characteristic does Jesus reveal about Himself through this story?

Chapter 8: One of the themes Luke highlights in his gospel account is the significance of women. Contrary to the practices of His day, Jesus honored the dignity of women in His ministry. (See also the dignity showed to the woman who anointed Him in chapter 7.) In the opening verses of chapter 8, Luke acknowledges that Jesus regularly traveled with a group of people including the twelve disciples, but also many others including a significant number of women.

In 8:19-21, Luke mentions Jesus' mother and brothers. The reference to His brothers probably refers to the natural children of Joseph and Mary, born after Jesus. However, there are some who believe that Joseph may have been married prior to marrying Mary, and was widowed. If that is so, these brothers could be Jesus' older stepbrothers born to Joseph and his first wife.

Chapters 9 and 10. Notice that Jesus sends out the twelve apostles (9:1-6) and then the seventy-two (10:1-12). This shows that the ministry of Jesus was not just to stay with Him and the original twelve disciples, but it expands to others. What does that say to you today about your role in expanding the message of Christ?

Chapter 11. The parable of the persistent friend, vv.5-13, is a parable recorded only in Luke. As you read this, notice the word used in verse 8, "impudence." In other translations, this word is translated "persistence," "boldness," "shamelessness." Reflect on your prayer life. Are your prayers persistent, bold, shameless?

Belonging in Community

Connect groups are communities—a group of Christians who meet together regularly—where we intentionally share in our faith walk. Connection is created through commitment and presence in fellowship, discussion, and prayer.

- Begin your time together by following up on anything that was shared during your last time together.
- Take some time to share any reflections of aha’s you had from your reading.

This week we were challenged to take a look at the difference between laboring and listening. Both are important traits for a person who is following the way of Jesus. However, we are all created with a tendency to do one over the other. Where would you place yourself on the scale? Take some time to share.

 Laboring -----Listening

When we know we are leaning toward one trait it is easy for us to feel less than capable or even shame for not showing up in a certain way. We may even make others feel like they are less than because they don’t have the same “leaning” that we do.

- Have you ever experienced shame for not being the type of person you think you should be?
- Have you ever made someone else feel bad for not being the type of person you think they should be?

It is important to remember that it is really all about Jesus. It’s not about being the right kind of person or doing the right thing. It’s about being attentive to Jesus and where His Spirit is at work.

- How can you encourage each other to be focused on Jesus in your labors and in your listening?

Take some time in prayer

Blessing the World

As you listen to what God is speaking into your life: What opportunities do you have to be a Good Samaritan to the people around you? Think of three ways to bless people around you this week. Filled with God’s love and forgiveness be intentional about going and blessing (James 1:22).