

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

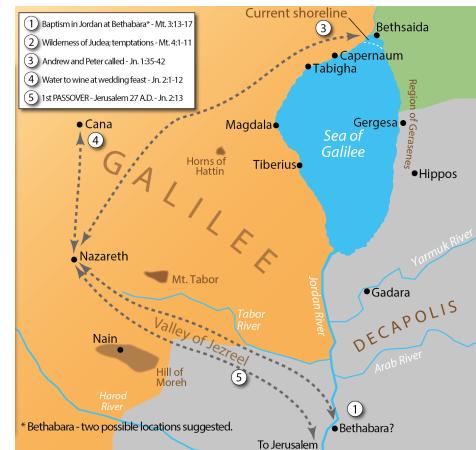
Jesus is  
Tempted  
and Begins  
His Ministry

Sunday,  
February 8

And Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being \_\_\_\_\_ by the devil. (Luke 4:1-2)

Luke describes three temptations specifically for us:

- Ⓐ “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become \_\_\_\_\_.” (4:3-4)
- Ⓑ “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will \_\_\_\_\_ me, it will all be yours.” (4:5-8)
- Ⓒ “If you are the Son of God, \_\_\_\_\_ yourself down from here, for it is written...” (4:9-12)



But Jesus, to all three temptations, responded with the same answer: “It is written” (4:4, 8, 12).

As the devil left him “until an \_\_\_\_\_ time,” Jesus returned “in the power of the Spirit to Galilee” and began teaching in their synagogues, “being glorified by all” (4:14-15). When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day. When given the opportunity, he read **Isaiah 61:1-2** and made an absolutely incredible statement: “Today this Scripture is \_\_\_\_\_ in your hearing” (4:16-21). But as Jesus reasoned with the people, they became so filled with wrath that they drove him out of the town and were ready to throw him off a cliff (4:22-30).

Capernaum on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee became a kind of home base for Jesus at this point and he astonished the people of that city, “for his word possessed \_\_\_\_\_” (4:31-32). One day, in the synagogue, there was a man with the spirit of an unclean demon that knew exactly who Jesus was, but he was no match for Jesus’ authority (4:33-37).

After healing Simon’s mother-in-law (4:38-39), many who were sick with various diseases or afflicted by demons were brought to Jesus, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them (4:40-41). The people in that area would have loved for Jesus to stay, but he said to them, “I must preach the \_\_\_\_\_ news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this \_\_\_\_\_” (4:42-44).

How does **Luke 4** help us grow in certainty about Jesus? Let’s talk about it...

## For Class & Family Discussion:

- Jesus was “tempted by the devil” (4:1). Who is this tempter? What does “devil” mean?
- “The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread’” (4:3). How would you describe this temptation? What can we learn from Jesus’ response (4:4)?
- “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours” (4:5-7). How would you describe this temptation? What can we learn from Jesus’ response (4:8)?
- “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone’” (4:9-11). How would you describe this temptation? What can we learn from Jesus’ response (4:12)?
- “And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time” (4:13). Is there anything we can learn from that last phrase?
- In the Nazareth synagogue (4:16-20), Jesus read from [Isaiah 61:1-2](#). What is he claiming in [Luke 4:21](#) when he said, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing”?
- What is Jesus implying in his references to the widow of Zarephath and Naaman the Syrian (4:25-27) and why did the synagogue crowd react so violently (4:28-30)?
- In [Luke 4:31-41](#), what do the demons know with complete certainty? How does [James 2:18-19](#) add to our understanding of what was going on?
- Remember the goal of Luke’s Gospel—“that you may have certainty” (1:4). How does [Luke 4](#) help us grow in certainty about Jesus?