

Pastors, please note: The lectionary study in Luke for Sunday, October 3 is Luke 17: 5 – 10. Some initial Gut Trip Analysis is provided, and a suggested sermon outline is located at the end of this study.

WS: LET'S REVIEW — Holding phrases for the four Gospels. Memorize the following four statements! These hold the key to understanding the four Gospels.

MATTHEW: Jesus' Teaching Manual for living the deeply satisfied life;

MARK: Our mission is to awaken those spiritually asleep;

LUKE: Jesus and Jesus' message is the same;

JOHN: The meaning of our baptismal experience.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IHOP BIBLE STUDY

Topic: "Keeping Priorities Straight": The Essence of Jesus Message

Luke 8: 16 – 18; 8: 9 – 21; 9: 46 - 50; 9: 51- 56; 9: 57 - 62; 10: 25 – 37; 11: 5 - 10; 11: 11- 13; 11: 14 – 28; 12: 13 – 21; 14: 15: 24; 14: 28 – 32; 16: 11 – 15; 16: 16 – 18; 18: 1 - 8; 18: 9 – 14; 18: 18 – 30.

The purpose of the Gospel of Luke is told in the opening verses in the first chapter, ". . . it seemed good to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught." It is this "orderly account" that provides the organization of our study material.

The reflective studies forming the chart of Luke's gospel reveals the overall title of "Affirming The Life, Message, and Demonstration of Jesus' Message." This theme has three major sections: "Affirming The Life of Jesus Christ" (1:1 – 7: 50); "Fourteen Themes of Jesus' Message (8: 1 – 21: 4); "Affirming the Transparent Jesus" (21: 5 – 24: 50). There are 31 lessons in this series.

The uniqueness of Luke's gospel is discovered in the "Fourteen Themes of Jesus' Message." This material encompasses 58 pericopes. A "pericope" can be associated with the subsections titled in the chapters of most bible translations. Sometimes some translations differ, and some leave this titling out altogether. For our purposes, this material is grouped into fourteen themes. This work is aided by the chart work previously done. This thematic approach is unique and, as you will discover, it is an interesting endeavor. The study of this thematic material began in **session 8**.

This is lesson number 9 of 31. Today, we begin a new section in our study of Luke. It is much anticipated because it gets to the heart of what Luke wants to tell Theophilus about the proof of who this Jesus is. Look at the Luke Chart for a moment. Note there are two central themes: "The Essence of the Message," and "The Message At Work."

We will study "The Essence of the Message" in 10 sessions. "The Message At Work" will be studied in 9 sessions. You will discover that some of the

lessons cover a lot of scripture material. Remember that there are 58 pericopes here in 14 thematic messages.

Read the assigned THEME at one time. Keeping priorities straight --

Note: There are 17 pericope here. The implication is that each one of these concerns the experience of “Keep Priorities Straight.”

Your assignment: Read each of the assigned pericopes.

Then, chose one of the pericope and identify the key verse that describes the priority. Second, choose the scripture words that describes the experience Jesus intends. Third, re-write the pericope in your own words using Gut Trip Analysis

I’ll model one of these for you.

A. Luke 8: 19 – 21: Jesus’ Mother and Brothers

Key verse— “Your mother and brothers are standing outside waiting to see you.”

B. Scripture words that describes the experience.

‘My mother and brothers are those who hear God’s word and put it into practice (NIV).’

C. Rewriting scripture in my own words using Gut Trip Analysis.

(A transliteration) “Living in relationships that result in At-One-Ment between neighbors, self and the ultimate relationship of Perfect At-One-Ment is our primary experience to bring meaning and purpose to human existence. This is what makes humanity humane.”

Note: This pericope also can be associated with “The Hard Sayings” theme that is one of the 14 themes in Luke. However, I felt that the emphasis on “Keeping Priorities Straight” was of more value that lumping it with the other “Hard Sayings.”

OK. Now, after you’ve read these 17 pericopes, pick one and do the work. Please make the effort to copy it to your “Reply” button and send it back to me at wsalmon@cox.net.

All right. Talk to me.

LECTIONARY STUDY FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3: Luke 17: 5 – 10. This is Luke's treatment of faith as small as a Mustard Seed. This pericope shows up in the Chart of Luke as one of Luke's 14 themes "Faith and Gratitude."

Gut Trip Theology:

A similar simile is used in Matthew 13: 31 to illustrate a parable of the Kingdom of God. You will remember that Matthew's key word above is that Jesus is used as teaching model to illustrate the Spiritual Oasis—the Kingdom of God.

Consequently, Luke uses this simile in a different way. In Luke, the subject is faith that is the result of obedience or duty.

A Gut Trip Analysis of the word "faith" is illuminated in the experience of surrender. Faith is trust. Faith is our surrender to live in God's presence as Perfect At-One-Ment. The experience of our surrender to God is that of fulfillment and a profound sense of harmony. Living in God's presence is what real living is all about.

The opposite also is true. When life is stressful and un-fulfilling is an indication that we are not surrendering our lives to God.

The danger we face is that of pride. We get to thinking that the reward for surrendering is that we deserve more, or we deserve a better place at the table. This is not true, nor is it the way it is. The reward for surrendering our lives is the deep sense of satisfaction we get.

All of this is the significance of the "servant" story in 17: 7 – 10.

Suggested sermon title: Real Living

Vs. 5-6: Introduction: Tell a story of surrendering our lives in trust to an airplane on vacation. We bet our lives on the wings of physics.

- I. Disciples request of Jesus to "Increase our faith."
 1. Put us in touch with authentic humane humanness.
 2. Tapping into the power of God to move Mulberry Trees
- II. vs. 7 – 10: Real living is surrendering all to God
 1. this fulfills our lives by living wholly, and deeply satisfied.
 2. It is enough for us to do our Christian duty: surrendering all

Postlude: Use a personal testimony of a surrendered life. (Your own or someone else.)