

Spending Time with Jesus in Luke 8

Don't forget to invite Jesus to speak to you as you read this week.

First read through: Read Chapter 8 all the way through, imagining you are there.

Second read through: Look for themes and underline them in the color on your key.

What do you notice?

1)

2)

3)

Third read through: Answer questions as you go.

Luke 8:1-15

Are you surprised at who is traveling with Jesus? If so, who? Why is it a surprise?

Who in Luke would be examples of the parable of the seeds? What makes them a good illustration?

The path:

Rocky ground:

Thorns:

Good soil:

Luke 8:16-21

Circle all the times the words “hear” or anything connected with hearing is used from 8:1-21.

How many do you find? _____

Jesus says, “Therefore (because everything will be brought to light), consider carefully how you listen.” *How many ways can you think of to listen?*

What is another way to say “consider carefully?”

*Personal question: Are you willing to consider carefully how you listen?...and who you listen to?
What would that look like?*

The closest relationships for a man in those days were with their mother and brothers. *How close is Jesus saying He is to those who hear God's word and put it into practice?*

What does it mean to put God's word into practice?

Luke 8:22-25

The disciples had grown up around the Sea of Galilee and knew how quickly and violently a storm could come up. Interesting that the disciples were amazed and afraid when Jesus calms the waters with just his words, but Luke says nothing about how they felt when Jesus raised the dead man in chapter 7. *Why would Jesus calming the storm be a bigger sign to them? (Hint: Genesis 1:1-2, 9. I Kings 17:10-24)*

Luke 8:26-39 The region of the Gerasenes...alert, alert! This is Gentile territory.

Look back. How many times has Luke told us about Jesus telling demons to leave people?

What is different about this story compared to those other times?

Using one or two words each, how do you think each of the characters in this story would describe Jesus?

The demon possessed man:

The demons:

The ones tending the pigs:

The townspeople:

The disciples (remember, this happens right after the storm!):

Luke 8:40-56

How much time has passed between the last two stories and this one? (v. 40)

Have you noticed that often Luke will follow a pattern: a story about a man followed by a story about a woman? From what you've learned, how unusual would you think this would be?

Remembering that Luke is writing "an orderly account," why do you think he included so many stories of women?

Luke tells two stories together as a sandwich. We are meant to see the stories together, and the "bread" story helps us understand the significance of the "middle" story.

Story #1 is like the "bread" of the sandwich in vv 41, 51-56. What is it about?

Story #2 is the "middle" of the sandwich...the more important part... in vv 43-48. What is it?

Story #1: How important is this daughter to Jairus? How do you know?

How old is she?

Story #2: Blood was thought of as life itself. So in their understanding, this woman's life was literally leaving her body each day for twelve years. *What would her life have been like? What would she have missed out on? How would she have been treated?*

What does Jesus call her?

Why not just say, "Your faith has healed you," and not call her anything at all?