

## Spending Time with Jesus in Luke 21

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

First read through: Read Chapter 21 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 20:45-21:4**

Yes, go back and read this together with the last story.

What two or three things do you notice that are different between the teachers of the law and the widow?

How is this an example of Luke 14:11?

## Luke 21:5-36

How many times has Jesus spoken of what would happen to Jerusalem because she would not accept the kingdom of God...or about this generation being condemned because they would not repent? List the chapters where he spoke about this:\_\_\_\_\_ How does Jesus feel when he warns the Jews about it? How do you know how he's feeling?

Jesus is talking only to his \_\_\_\_\_ in ch. 21. (see vv. 5-8)

What are the disciples so impressed with in v. 5?

Herod the Great (who wanted to kill baby Jesus) began what became an 80-year project to rebuild the unimpressive temple the Jewish exiles had built 500 years before. He wanted to make it like one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Mt. Zion (the mountain Jerusalem is built on) just wasn't big enough for Herod's plans, so he made *the mountain* bigger...literally twice as wide...and used gleaming-bright-perfectly-cut white stone for the Temple, courtyards, colonnades, and the massive walls surrounding them. He even a special walkway a couple of stories high that went from his home to the temple courts so that he and the high priests could enter that way (you know, to keep from rubbing shoulders with the masses...who just might be thinking of ways to get rid of him.)

By the time Jesus cleansed the temple, the building project was in its 46<sup>th</sup> year. The white stones absolutely gleaming in the sunlight. Each year when the Jews came for Passover, they could see the latest improvements and embellishments. The temple mount project was finished more than 30 years after Jesus ascended, somewhere between 62 and 64 A.D.

It was completely demolished by the Romans in 70.\*

(\*from [TEMPLE OF HEROD - JewishEncyclopedia.com](http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com))

Whose house was the temple?

What do you call people who visit your home?

What do you call someone who remodels your home?

Who gets to decide how the space in a house gets used – the owner, the guests or the workers?

What would you do if guests in your home were harming the ones you love?

“They devour widows houses and for a show make lengthy prayers...” 20:47

If the Jews followed Jesus as Messiah, Jerusalem could have been spared. But no. They have rejected Jesus as Messiah, refused to repent when Jesus pointed out how they were disobeying God.

Their leaders' focus is on protecting and beautifying God's Temple. It has become an idol that must be toppled.

Jesus is warning his disciples that Jerusalem will be desolated. In other words, Jerusalem will be wiped off the map...leveled and made uninhabitable and most of its people killed. What will happen to the Temple? (v. 6)

What will happen before Rome will take over Jerusalem? Name 3-5 things (vv. 8-19):

What are Jesus' disciples NOT to be? (v. 9)

What are Jesus' disciples to make up their mind beforehand to not do? (v. 14)

Does it sound possible to not fear or worry? \_\_\_\_\_ Please go back and read Luke 1:68-75, the words of the first doubter in this gospel. What is one reason God raised up Jesus in 1:74? To enable us to \_\_\_\_\_ him without \_\_\_\_\_. Am I the only one who needs to hear this again?

How will Jesus' disciples bear testimony to Jesus? In other words, how is God going to make it so that the good news about Jesus will spread around the world? (vv. 12-13)

Do you happen to remember important people Paul stood before? If so, how important were they?

Who will betray Jesus' disciples? (v. 16)

Who will hate Jesus' disciples? (v. 17)

Do you remember Jesus warning them that this would happen? Look back at 6:22-23. He told them to leap for joy when they are hated. Why? For \_\_\_\_\_ is your \_\_\_\_\_. How does that sound like 21:14?

When will Jesus' disciples know that Jerusalem is about to be wiped off the map and what does he tell them to do? (v. 20-21)

This was "a time of punishment in \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ that has been \_\_\_\_\_." (v. 22)  
What written document(s) do you think Jesus means?

Luke 21:8-27 is apocalyptic genre. In other words, it is going to use lots of symbolism and sound like parts of Daniel and Revelation. Here are a couple of symbols: The heavens (sun, moon and stars) are symbols of the nations. The seas are symbols of chaos and unexplainably uncontrollable things that bring destruction.

What will the nations see? (v. 27)

Who alone rides the clouds?

There isn't a clear line between Jesus talking about the fall of Jerusalem and when he starts talking about when he will return one day as the undisputed Lord of all. The judgement on Jerusalem reminds us that one day \_\_\_\_\_ who live on the face of the \_\_\_\_\_ earth will be judged, and we will each give an account of how we followed Jesus Messiah. Did we give up everything to follow Jesus? Did we put ourselves under his authority? Did we walk humbly with Jesus, loving each person around us? When we messed up, did we repent like the tax collector or get proud like the Pharisee?

How could "that day" of judgement close on you suddenly like a trap? What does that have to do with having a heart weighed down by carousing, drunkenness, and the anxieties of life?

What are Jesus' disciples always to be and why? (v. 36)

What does it mean to stand before the Son of Man?