

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

This Changes Everything | The Promise of Freedom

James Armstrong | Luke 4:16-30 | December 9, 2018

DISCUSSION

Read this week's text: Luke 4:16-30

1. Verse 16 says Jesus went to synagogue regularly. What are the implications for us? What makes you want to go to church or small group? What might make you not want to go?
2. Luke 4:17 says "the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him." What are the implications of the fact that the reading was a prophesy of Jesus' ministry?
3. What is the primary message of Luke 4:18-19, which quotes Isaiah 61:1-2?
4. Jesus read from the Bible they possessed at the time, the Old Testament. Now that we have the New Testament, how should we view the Old Testament?
5. In Luke 4:18a, who are "the poor"?
6. From what has the Christian been freed? What is the result of this? Read and consider Romans 6:17-19.
7. Note that Jesus quotes Isaiah 61:1-2a. Why doesn't He quote v. 2b – "proclaim...the day of vengeance of our God"? When will 2b be fulfilled?
8. What did Jesus mean in v. 21 where He says, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing"? If you had been a Jew hearing this, how do you think you would have reacted?
9. During Christmastime, we are reminded that many Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled in Christ. How does this impact our faith today? What are other reasons the Old Testament has value to us now?

APPLICATION

1. Knowing that God orchestrates circumstances in the Christian's life for his or her good (Romans 8:28), how can you better react to things happening to you?
2. Considering Jesus quoted the Old Testament, are there lessons from the Old Testament that you need to apply to your life?
3. What is an example of how you can "offer yourself as a slave to righteousness leading to holiness (Romans 6:19b)?"
4. How can you incorporate Old Testament prophecies of Christ into your observance of Christmas this year?

For additional study material, go to bthl.ch/ggl

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING: THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM

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1. Jesus came to lead people to freedom Lk 4:16-22;
Lk 4:18
2. Freedom is offered to the outsider Lk 4:23-27;
Lk 9:28-31;
Lk 5:29-32
3. Many insiders reject Christ's freedom Lk 4:28-30;
Acts 18:5-6