

LUKE 4:14-30

11 SEPTEMBER 2022

ICE BREAKER: Describe one of your favorite places to go.

GROUP QUESTIONS:

Prior to Jesus establishing the **Church**, God’s people—the Jews—worshiped in the **synagogue**. Throughout His ministry, Jesus “taught in the synagogues.” He faithfully worshiped and taught in the synagogue. “He went into the synagogue, as was **his custom**.”

Some believe you can stay home and worship God—that you do not need to go to church to be a Christian. Others believe you can stay home on Sundays and watch a sermon on TV. Unless physically unable, Jesus models that God’s people are to worship and fellowship together through the church, not outside it.

1. Why would God prescribe and Jesus model **the importance** of God’s people **regularly worshipping and fellowshiping together** at a **designated place** and at a **designated time**?

(Read verses 14, 18-19) Within the first four chapters, Luke has already described the work of the **Holy Spirit** nine times. **Everywhere** Jesus goes, the Holy Spirit **leads** him. Notice the first verse of this chapter. “Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit** in the desert.” Here in verse 14, “Jesus **returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit**.” In verse 18 Jesus declares, “**He has sent me**.”

Everything Jesus does, the Holy Spirit **empowers** him. In verse 18, “**The Spirit of the Lord** is on me, because he has **anointed me**.” The direction and the power of our Christian life come from the Holy Spirit, if we will follow Him.

2. How have you been able to discern the **Holy Spirit** is **leading you**, and **not yourself** or a **demonic spirit**?

(Read verses 17-19) Jesus proclaimed the Holy Spirit has empowered Him and sent Him “to proclaim the **year of the Lord’s favor**.” The Jewish audience hearing Jesus would immediately know the year of the Lord’s favor meant the “**Year of Jubilee**”. (Leviticus 25:8-55)

God established the Year of Jubilee to be celebrated **every 50 years**. On that year, **slaves** were **set free**, all **debts** were **anceled**, and all **property returned** to the original family. What a year of celebration that would be!

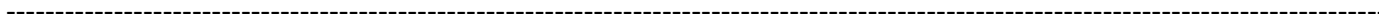
3. How is the “**Year of Jubilee**” a picture of our salvation in Jesus Christ?

(Read verses 23-30) Despite His initial **hometown** acceptance, Jesus declared, “no prophet is accepted in **his hometown**.” Sure enough, by the time Jesus finished preaching, “All the people in the synagogue were **furious**.” Those living **closest** to Jesus became His **biggest critics** and the **most hurtful**.

Christians often face the same problem Jesus faced. Many times those **closest to us** have the most **difficulty believing** and **accepting** our new life of faith in Christ.

4. Why do you think **family** and **friends** are often those who have the most **difficulty believing** our new life in Christ?

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE & USE PRAYER LIST AS BIBLE BOOK MARKER



PRAYER GROUP TIME

(Make a list of people whom those in your group plan to witness Christ to this week.)
