

THAT YOU MAY KNOW

Group Discussion Guide

In our time together in the book of Luke, we want to discover Jesus, the man who is God, in a fresh way. Please take moment to explain why you (the group leader) are excited about this new sermon series. Also take a moment to explain the new sermon reading guide and encourage your people to follow along.

STARTER

The beginning of the Gospel of Luke opens with Luke explaining that he is writing this biography of Jesus so that a man named Theophilus and other who read it would know that the things they have heard about Jesus are true. What are or have been some of your doubts or struggles with the Christian faith?

(Group Leader Note: the goal of this exercise is to help people open up and be honest, not to answer people's doubts.)

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURE

Please take a few moments to read the opening verses of Luke 1:1-4.

What do these passages tell us about how Luke went about writing his Gospel?

What can we gather about his motivation for writing his Gospel?

MAKING IT REAL

We can gather from sources outside of the Bible that there was a great deal of different teaching about who Jesus was and why He came. This could have been why Theophilus was questioning what was true. How can we discern what is true about Jesus?

There were many teachings around that were not correct and hurt people's understanding of Jesus. It seems this is part of why Luke wanted to write his Gospel. The same is true of our day as well. There are many teaching about Jesus that are both in churches and across our country that are incorrect and hurt our understanding of Jesus. What are some of those incorrect teachings that directly impact our faith that our in our churches and in our greater culture?

In our passage today it seemed that Theophilus was seeking to understand Jesus and Luke was in a position to help Theophilus understand Jesus better through investigation and writing it down. In your relationship with Jesus, where do you see yourself? Do you see yourself in more of a searching looking for answers place or in a proclaiming and helping others understand Jesus place?

DISCOVERING JESUS

Please read Matthew 7:7-11. What does Jesus tell us about those who seek Him? How does this promise change how we seek out Jesus?

(Group Leader) Please take a moment to remind people that our purpose for this series is to discover Jesus. We can believe that when we seek Him we will find him. At the end of many of our studies we will ask the question, "What have you discovered about Jesus?" We are going to ask this both as a way to hear from one another but also as an encouragement to continue to seek Jesus together. Pray for everyone.