



GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE

13 – Miracles and Matthew





RECAP FROM LECTURE 12



- † Christ was sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the good news.
- † Envy is always sinful, Jealously may or may not be sinful
- † Christ commands the demons and in so doing makes himself known to them for our sake
- † Christ's primary mission is announcing the good news
- † The response to healing is service
- † Christ uses ordinary means for his preaching

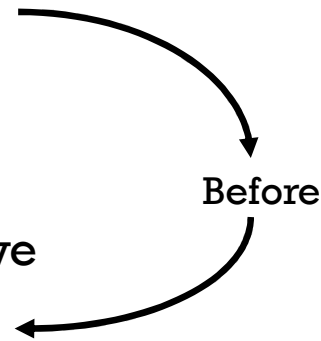




PLAN OF THIS STUDY

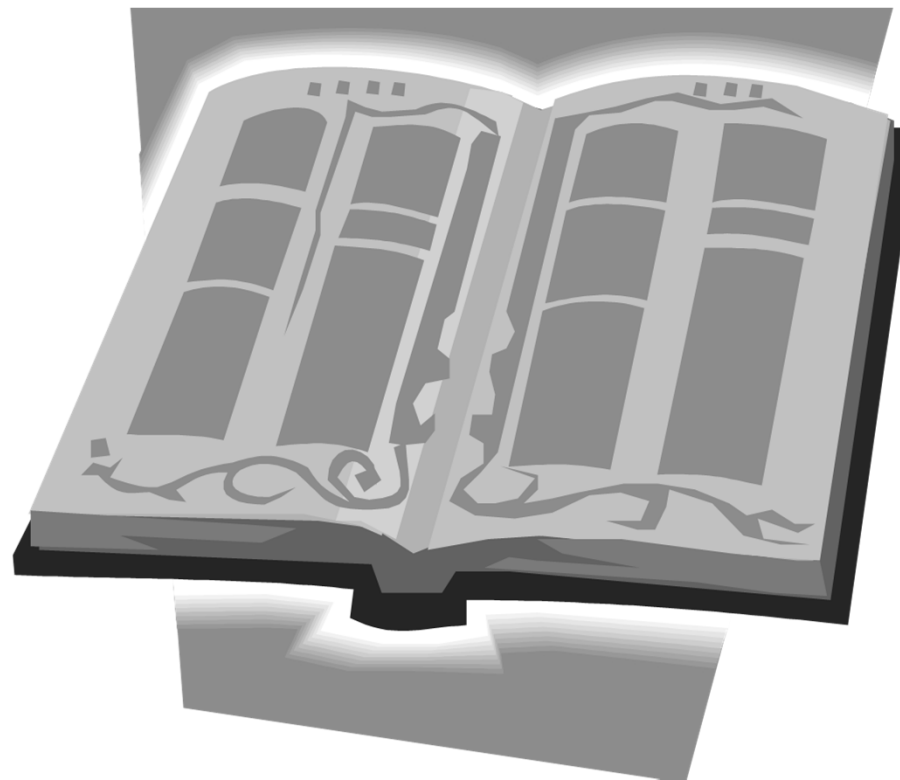


1. Miraculous draught of fish
2. The Calling of Peter the Galilean
3. The Healing of the Leper
4. Communion of the Saints
5. First controversy – power to forgive
6. The calling of Levi
7. Second controversy – eating with sinners
8. Third controversy – on fasting
9. First Parable





OPEN YOUR BIBLE TO LUKE 5:1 - 39





LUKE 5:1-8 – MIRACULOUS DRAUGHT OF FISH



- 1 While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennes'aret.
- 2 And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.
- 3 Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat.
- 4 And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."
- 5 And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."
- 6 And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking,
- 7 they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.
- 8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."





LUKE 5:9-11 – CALLING OF PETER



9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken;
10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zeb'edee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men."
11 And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.





LUKE 5:12-16 – HEALING A LEPER



12 While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and besought him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."

13 And he stretched out his hand, and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him.

14 And he charged him to tell no one; but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to the people."

15 But so much the more the report went abroad concerning him; and great multitudes gathered to hear and to be healed of their infirmities.

16 But he withdrew to the wilderness and prayed.





LUKE 5:17-20 – COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS



17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.

18 And behold, men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they sought to bring him in and lay him before Jesus;

19 but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus.

20 And when he saw their faith he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you."





LUKE 5:21-26 – FIRST CONTROVERSY – FORGIVENESS OF SINS



21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this that speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only?"

22 When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts?"

23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'?

24 But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" -- he said to the man who was paralyzed -- "I say to you, rise, take up your bed and go home."

25 And immediately he rose before them, and took up that on which he lay, and went home, glorifying God.

26 And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."





LUKE 5:27-29A – THE CALLING OF LEVI



27 After this he went out, and saw a tax collector, named Levi, sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, "Follow me."

28 And he left everything, and rose and followed him.

29a And Levi made him a great feast in his house;





LUKE 5:29B-32 – SECOND CONTROVERSY – EATING WITH SINNERS



29b and there was a large company of tax collectors and others sitting at table with them.

30 And the Pharisees and their scribes murmured against his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

31 And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick;

32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."





LUKE 5:33-35 – THIRD CONTROVERSY – ON FASTING



33 And they said to him, "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink."

34 And Jesus said to them, "Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?"

35 The days will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days."





LUKE 5:36-39 – FIRST PARABLE



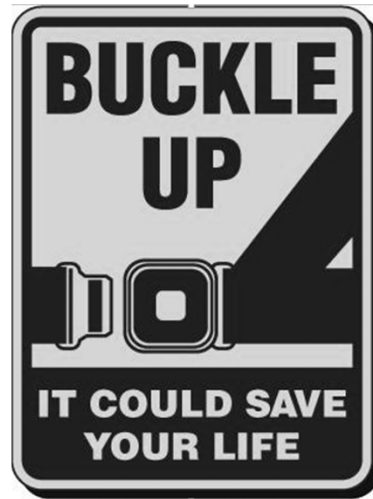
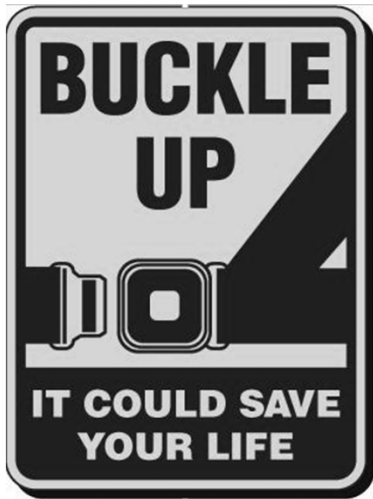
36 He told them a parable also: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it upon an old garment; if he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old.

37 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed.

38 But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

39 And no one after drinking old wine desires new; for he says, 'The old is good.'"







LUKE 5:1-8 – MIRACULOUS DRAUGHT OF FISH



- 1 While the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennes'aret.
- 2 And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.
- 3 Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat.
- 4 And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."
- 5 And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."
- 6 And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking,
- 7 they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.
- 8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."





LUKE 5:1-8 / 1



- † “Put out a little from the Land”: Why?
- † “He sat down”: Jesus sits, we stand or we kneel. Liturgical metaphor.
- † “To Teach: The ministry of the Church is first and foremost of teaching → Proclaiming the Good News is teaching the world about Jesus.
- † No one can learn on an empty stomach → The corporate works of mercy is to alleviate the suffering of body and soul (a means to an end) so that the heart may hear and accept the Word of God.
- † No one can learn if in bondage to Sin: The sacraments are the means by which the Divine Physician heals and restores the supernatural faculties of the Soul so we may be able to bear fruit.

From the boat: Christ teaches from his Church...





LUKE 5:1-8 / 2

- † “Hear the word of God”: First occurrence of that expression in the Gospel of Saint Luke. What are they hearing?
- † Difference between the “word telling about God” and the “Word of God” or “God’s Word.”
- † In Acts, it is used fourteen times and it denotes the Christian message preached by the Apostles.
- † The word of God is connected to the Petrine ministry
- † Two boats: In Mark: Simon and Andrew. Luke never mentions Andrew. Why?



Boat belonged to Simon: Jesus entered Simon’s house, then Simon’s boat.





LUKE 5:1-8 / 3



† He said to Simon: Christ instructs Simon who instructs his brothers

† “Put out into the deep”: Prophecy in action. Ezekiel chapter 4

1 "And you, O son of man, take a brick and lay it before you, and portray upon it a city, even Jerusalem;

2 and put siegeworks against it, and build a siege wall against it, and cast up a mound against it; set camps also against it, and plant battering rams against it round about.

3 And take an iron plate, and place it as an iron wall between you and the city; and set your face toward it, and let it be in a state of siege, and press the siege against it. This is a sign for the house of Israel.

4 "Then lie upon your left side, and I will lay the punishment of the house of Israel upon you; for the number of the days that you lie upon it, you shall bear their punishment.

5 For I assign to you a number of days, three hundred and ninety days, equal to the number of the years of their punishment; so long shall you bear the punishment of the house of Israel.

6 And when you have completed these, you shall lie down a second time, but on your right side, and bear the punishment of the house of Judah; forty days I assign you, a day for each year.

7 And you shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem, with your arm bared; and you shall prophesy against the city.

8 And, behold, I will put cords upon you, so that you cannot turn from one side to the other, till you have completed the days of your siege.





LUKE 5:1-8 / 4



- † The catch happens after we hear → We hear then we catch. We worship in Truth and in Spirit then the world is made straight. Not the other way around.
- † Master: Jesus healed Peter's Mother-in-Law...
- † We toiled all night as is natural when one is trying to catch fish and took nothing: men apart from Christ, aided by natural reason toil in darkness and in vain. Men with the Light of Christ toil during the day and are fruitful.
- † The force of the message is this: Success in the spiritual life is God's design and it may not be understood by human reason → Absolute surrender to God's will is absolutely necessary
- † Human expertise is *never* the end-all and be-all of wisdom.
At your word: Peter does not go before Christ, but after him. Christ speaks, Peter obeys. This is the Church.





LUKE 5:1-8 / 5



- † Simon Peter saw... It's Simon throughout until now: Simon Peter. The mind illuminated by the *Opus Dei* -- work of God is elevated to belief.
- † Simon Peter Fell on his knees: Simon the Rock fell on his knees... Catch the Irony.
- † To a Semitic mind, power of command over the sea and its inhabitants would suggest divine power (Gen 1:1, Ps 92)
- † Simon did not keep his eyes on the fish but on the Lord. In the light of Christ he knew himself a sinner.
- † Simon is still operating under the Old Covenant. *Nets were breaking ... Depart from me O Lord.* Compare with John 21:11 "So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and although there were so many, the net was not torn."
The Old Covenant tears and break, the new does not.





LUKE 5:9-12 – CALLING OF PETER



9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken;
10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zeb'edee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men."
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LUKE 5:9-12



- † He was astonished... Scientific inquiries and the wonders of heaven lead to Christ.
- † Do not be afraid: From what?
- † You will be catching men.
- † Fish → Men. What happens to fish when we catch them and haul them? They die. How is Simon to understand this?
- † Left everything: What did they leave, what did they keep?
- † Followed Him: God prepares our hearts to follow-him.





LUKE 5:12-16 – HEALING A LEPER



12 While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and besought him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."

13 And he stretched out his hand, and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him.

14 And he charged him to tell no one; but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to the people."

15 But so much the more the report went abroad concerning him; and great multitudes gathered to hear and to be healed of their infirmities.

16 But he withdrew to the wilderness and prayed.





LUKE 5:12-16



- † Full of Leprosy: In extra-biblical Greek, the word *lepra* usually designated something like psoriasis (favus, lupus, psoriasis, ringworm, white spots)
 - † Unclean – outcast. Lev 15:7. Cannot participate in the liturgical life of the community.
 - † He fell upon his face: A sign of profound adoration. Think Eucharistic Adoration
 - † Sir – Kyrie – Lord.
 - † If you will – Theological understanding of the power of Christ. What He wills, is.
 - † Link to the story of the healing of Naaman by Elisha.
 - † Outward and inward cleanliness. One is the sign of the other.
- Mark 1:41 – Moved with Pity – God's Mercy.
- The Clean touches the unclean and the unclean is cleansed





LUKE 5:12-16 / 2



- † Tell no one... Do not reveal what God has done for you except in the confessional or when asked to do so by your spiritual director
- † Make an offering: Why does he need to make an offering? For what? Forgiveness of Sins and Temporal punishment due to Sin.
- † As Moses Commanded: Characteristic obedience of Christ to the Law... even though he the Perfect One does not need to obey the Law which is imperfect.
- † Hear and be healed: That's the order. All must hear; not all will be healed.
- † He withdrew and prayed: Second mention of Christ withdrawing to pray when the crowd comes and asks to be healed of their infirmities.
- † Christ in Our Churches will withdraw when we are here only for ourselves.





LUKE 5:17-20 – COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS



17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.

18 And behold, men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they sought to bring him in and lay him before Jesus;

19 but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus.

20 And when he saw their faith he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you."





LUKE 5:17-20 / 1



- † The paralytic could not come to Jesus. Others had to carry him.
- † When he saw *their* faith
- † Nothing is said of the paralytic's faith:
 - ‡ → Communion of the Saints.
 - ‡ → Anticipates the power given to the Church to forgive sins
 - ‡ → Shows the antecedent love and Mercy of God: He loved us *before* we could love him or had the desire to love him
- † Your sins are forgiven you: In the eyes of Jesus, *Forgiveness of sins is far more than bodily health.* → Confession.





LUKE 5:21-26 – FIRST CONTROVERSY – FORGIVENESS OF SINS



21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this that speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only?"

22 When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts?"

23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'?

24 But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" -- he said to the man who was paralyzed -- "I say to you, rise, take up your bed and go home."

25 And immediately he rose before them, and took up that on which he lay, and went home, glorifying God.

26 And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."





LUKE 5:21-26 / 1



- † Pharisees and Teachers of the Law: representative of official Judaism
- † Speaks blasphemies: Where does Scripture say that God is the only one to forgive sins? Exodus 34:6,7, Nehemiah 9:17, Psalm 103:12, Isaiah 38:17
- † But mostly, because God is the only one to condemn anyone to Hell.
- † Question in your heart: It is not question in your heart as much as question in your heart when your heart is evil.
- † Which is easier to say? Which, indeed? Say what you mean, mean what you say.
- † Son of man: Messianic Title. See Ezekiel and Isaiah.
- † Authority on earth: All the earth is Christ's dominion.





LUKE 5:21-26 / 2



- † Healings are an outward sign of God's forgiveness of sins. They are given for the purpose of edifying the Church, conversion of sinners and salvation of unbelievers
- † Rise: Like Mary did.
- † Go home: Christ wishes to heal the family, not just the individual.
- † Glorifying God: Not before, but after, and for what he glorifying God?
- † Amazement seized them...were filled with awe: They saw strange things but did not see Christ. Peter saw strange things but he saw Christ.





LUKE 5:27-29A – THE CALLING OF LEVI



27 After this he went out, and saw a tax collector, named Levi, sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, "Follow me."

28 And he left everything, and rose and followed him.

29a And Levi made him a great feast in his house





LUKE 5:27-29A



- † Tax collector: Custom-house near the lakeside where tolls and dues were collected. The publicans were the agents of the head-publicans who in turn were the representatives of those who bought from the state the right to collect taxes.
- † The demand of their masters and their own-greed caused them to exploit the opportunity offered by ill-defined taxation and the ignorance of their victims.
- † Levi → Matthew . He was a ***portitor***, not a *publicanus*
- † Follow me... left everything: Christ gives us the means necessary to do His will.

Great feast: The fruit of conversion is gratitude.





LUKE 5:29B-32 – SECOND CONTROVERSY – EATING WITH SINNERS



29b and there was a large company of tax collectors and others sitting at table with them.

30 And the Pharisees and their scribes murmured against his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

31 And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick;

32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."





LUKE 5:29B-32



- † Murmured: strong protest – Numbers 16:41-45: “41 But on the morrow all the congregation of the people of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, “You have killed the people of the LORD.” 42 And when the congregation had assembled against Moses and against Aaron, they turned toward the tent of meeting; and behold, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared. And Moses and Aaron came to the front of the tent of meeting, 44 and the LORD said to Moses, 45 “Get away from the midst of this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.” And they fell on their faces.”
- † Wisdom 1:11 “Keep yourselves from murmuring, which profits nothing, and curb your tongue from detraction.”
- † First accusation: Sinners, Unclean company.
- † Sirach 11:33 “He lies in wait, turning good into evil, and puts a dark mark on another’s character.”
- † What has Jesus done a moment before? They saw the act, did not see the Man or the Lord.
- † Those who are well.... Who is well? Who is sick?



V. 30 -- Sinners: According to which law? Who was Jesus sitting with?

V 32 – Righteous...sinners: According to which law?





LUKE 5:33-35 – THIRD CONTROVERSY – ON FASTING



33 And they said to him, "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink."

34 And Jesus said to them, "Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?"

35 The days will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days."





LUKE 5:33-35



- † Second accusation: Slothfulness and gluttony
- † Image of the wedding feast of the lamb → Revelation
- † Purpose of fasting: CCC2043 The fourth precept ("You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church") ensures the times of **asceticism** and **penance** which **prepare us** for the **liturgical feasts** and **help us** acquire **mastery over our instincts** and **freedom of heart**.
- † They see a rabbi of the Old Covenant, he is the Lord of the New Covenant.



If we do not examine our heart and purify our conscience, we risk seeing the sins of others through the lens of our own.





LUKE 5:36-39 – FIRST PARABLE



36 He told them a parable also: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it upon an old garment; if he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old.

37 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed.

38 But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

39 And no one after drinking old wine desires new; for he says, 'The old is good.'"





LUKE 5:33-39 / 1



- † What are parables for? **So they may not understand.** Luke 8:9-10 “9 And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, 10 he said, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’”
 - † New Garment → Old Wineskin → Necessity for an inner transformation; a *divinization of human nature*
 - † New Wine in Old Wineskin → Grace upon unbaptized nature
- Taste prefers the old → Slow transformation of our nature





LET'S RECAP



1. Miraculous draught of fish → Don't gaze at the fish! Gaze at the divine fisherman
2. The Calling of Peter the Galilean → Restoration starts in Galilee
3. The Healing of the Leper → Restoration is not of a political order → It is anthropological
4. Communion of the Saints → Necessity of the communion of the saints in the salvific mission of the Church.
5. First controversy – power to forgive → Who is Christ? A 300-year controversy!
6. The calling of Levi → Gratitude is a wonderful response to God's gift
7. Second controversy – eating with sinners → Forbearance for those who do not understand
8. Third controversy – on fasting → Envy turns all good to evil
9. First Parable → In answer to Envy: So that they may not understand





FOR NEXT WEEK

- † Read Luke chapter 6
- † Points of meditation
 - † The importance of the Sabbath and the true meaning of the Sabbath
 - † What does “The Son of Man is the Lord of the Sabbath”?
 - † Why are the Pharisees and Scribes opposed to Jesus? On which ground?
 - † What is the purpose of the blessings and the woes?

