

Steve Greenberg's Handout, Sunday Morning, September 7, 2025

Week 10: Luke 5:12-39 Jesus Heals, Eats with Sinners

Luke 5:12-16 Jesus Cleanses a Leper (Matt. 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45)

Luk 5:12 And it happened when He(**Jesus**) was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy (**Lit: full of; means covered, advanced state**) saw Jesus; and he fell on his face (**to the ground**) and implored Him (**begged Jesus**), saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."

Leprosy: The Greek word traditionally translated leprosy was used for various diseases affecting the skin, including leprosy (see Lev 13). Today we call leprosy Hansen's disease.

Fell on face, or fall on his face: Means to put your face toward or on the ground as a position of reverence, deep humility, a heart's desperation plea, help. I believe you can make me clean, you have divine authority.

The big question was if Jesus was willing to heal? Yes, He was and He is still healing people today with their greatest need sin and death? He is willing to invite anyone, whosoever to come and be healed now?

Jhn 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Correlation passage:

Ten lepers healed by Jesus but only one, a foreigner came back and fell down on his face and gave thanks

Luk 17:12 Then as He (Jesus) entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off.

Luk 17:13 And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

Luk 17:14 So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed.

Luk 17:15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God,

Luk 17:16 and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.

Luk 5:13 Then He (**Jesus**) put (**stretched**) out His hand and touched him (**leper**), saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately (**instantly**) the leprosy left him (**disappeared**) (**it was a miraculous healing, miracle**).

The leper is cleansed by Jesus' touch and His words "I am willing; be cleansed." The leper's life was changed forever. He was not only healed, but cleansed.

For some people it is harder to believe in the Love of God than His Truth and Power to do miracles. All are important.

Luk 5:14 And He (**Jesus**) charged him (**instructed the leper**) to tell no one (**along the way**), "But go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as a testimony (**witness**) to them (**the priest, that this is a work of God, Messiah is here**), just as Moses commanded." (**The Mosaic Law, Lev 14, commanded the priest to perform ceremonies, this would allow the healed leper, by a miracle which just happened as a testimony and would allow the leper back into Jewish community and fellowship**).

Jesus instructed him go directly to Priest do not tell anyone, He did not want to draw large groups who come simply wanted to touch Him, be entertain or see miracles. His fame drew large crowd but may it be according to the Holy Spirit.

Luk 5:15 However (**despite Jesus' instructions to the leper**), the report (**news, the fame of Jesus**) went around concerning Him all the more (**faster**); and great multitudes (**vast crowds**) came together to hear (**Him speak, and teach the Word of God**), and to be healed by Him, of their infirmities (**sicknesses, diseases and those tormented with unclean spirits v6:18**).

Parallel Passage in Mark

Mar 1:44 and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go your way, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing those things which Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

Mar 1:45 However, he (healed Leper) went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the matter, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter the city, but was outside in deserted places; and they came to Him from every direction.

Notice people came to hear, and be healed (**Him speak, proclaim the truth the Word of God**), He didn't come just to perform physical healing miracles but to invite people to eternal life and ultimate healing.

Jesus Himself says that teaching and preaching (proclaiming truth) were His main purpose (mission).

Mar 1:38 But He(**Jesus**) said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth."

Luk 5:16 So He (**Jesus**) Himself often withdrew (**regularly withdrew and quietly slip away**) into (**Lit in**) the wilderness and prayed (**find a secluded place to pray**).

Notice: Jesus made a special point to withdraw regularly into the wilderness for prayer. Jesus sought intimate fellowship with God the Father. He is are example and showed us how to walk with God: To seek and get direction, spiritual rest, strength, empowerment, intimacy and all we need will be provided by Him.

Examples:

Mar 1:35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed (**Early, early morning**).

Luk 4:42 Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from leaving them (**Notice crowd did not want Him to leave but He wanted to spend time with His Father in prayer**);

Luk 6:12 Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God (**This He did before choosing His 12 disciples**).

Luk 22:41 And He(**Jesus**) was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed (**This happened not long before He was crucified**).

Mat 14:23 And when He(**Jesus**) had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there (**Prayed all night, and this happened before He walked on water and came to them on the boat**).

Do I have a quiet places where I can get alone and meet God?

Take time to get alone with God

What major decisions or trials am I facing that I need prayer?

Luke 5:17-26 Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralytic (Matt. 9:2–8; Mark 2:1–12)

Luk 5:17 Now it happened on a certain day, as He(**Jesus**) was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the (**religious**) law (**Scribes**), sitting by (**to be witnesses because of His fame, to review what He was teaching and approve or oppose and criticize**), who had come out of every town (**village**) of Galilee, Judea, and **Jerusalem** . And the power of the Lord was present (**with Him**) to heal them.

Notice: Jesus ministry of teaching:

Luk 4:43 (**Mark 1:38**) but He(**Jesus**) said to them, "I must preach (**teach**) the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent."

Jesus Message, The Kingdom of God is here, repent and believe (expose sin, offer life)

Mar 1:14 Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

Mar 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Religious authorities sent to investigate Jesus, they came from every town

Pharisees: Devout religious leaders, known for strict observance of the Law and oral traditions.

Scribes, Teachers of the Law, legal scholars, interpreters of the Mosaic Law.

Notice: the power of the Lord was present (**with Jesus**) to heal them (leper).

This refers to the power of the Holy Spirit enabling and confirming His ministry.

Other similar references:

Luk 4:14 Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.

Luk 4:18 "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

Are you filled and overflowing with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18 be continually filled with the Spirit,)

Luk 5:18 Then behold, (some) men brought (carried) on a bed (stretcher, mat), a man who was paralyzed, whom they sought to bring in and lay before Him(Jesus).

Luk 5:19 And when they could not find how they might bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the housetop (roof) and let him(paralyzed man) down with his bed (mat) through the tiling into the midst (middle of the crowd) before Jesus.

Many of the flat roofs have outside staircases leading to the roof. The roofs had different material often mud slabs laid on a mat of branches and grass supported by wooden beams which these men were able to remove to let down their friend.

Parallel Passage in Mark tells us he was carried by four men and was in Capernaum.

Mar 2:1 And again He(Jesus) entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house.

Mar 2:3 Then they came to Him (Jesus), bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men.

Mar 2:4 And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.

Luk 5:20 When He(Jesus) saw their faith (having confidence in Jesus), He said to him, "Man (Lit: Man), your sins are forgiven you."

Their faith: refers to the faith of the friends who brought the paralytic to Jesus, but it may also include the paralytic as well. Jesus is announcing that he has the authority to forgive sins and gave prove by a supernatural healing.

Luk 5:21 And the Scribes and the Pharisees began to reason (question the implications), saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies (He is claiming rights that only God has, that's blasphemy)? Who can forgive sins but God alone? (Who can remove sin's penalty, and assign righteousness only God) "

Jesus addressed man's greatest need, man's sinful condition which effects every aspect of life (the root of all pain and suffering). Man ultimately needs a savior.

Luk 5:22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts (hostile thoughts, the H.S. revealed to Jesus their thoughts), He answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning (raising objections) in your hearts?"

Parallel Passage in Matthew

Mat 9:3 And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man (Jesus) blasphemes!"

Mat 9:4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?"

Luk 5:23 "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise up and walk'?"

Luk 5:24 "But that you may know (I want you to know and I will prove to you) that the Son of Man (a title Jesus used for himself, being the Messiah) has power (authority) on earth to forgive sins"—He(Jesus) said to the man who was paralyzed, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed (or mat), and go to your house." (It is much easier to say that a person's sins are forgiven (because it cannot be proved or disproved) than to claim to be able to tell him to rise up and walk (which can be proved). Jesus' healing of the paralytic thus serves as proof (that you may know) that he, as the Son of Man, has the authority to forgive sins).

Luk 5:25 Immediately he (the paralyzed man) rose up before them (stood up, in front of them all), took up what he had been lying on (bed, mat), and departed to his own house, glorifying (praising) God.

Luk 5:26 And they were all amazed (astonished) (NLT-gripped with great wonder and awe), and they glorified (praised) God and were filled with fear (and reverence), saying, "We have seen strange (extraordinary, wonderful and incredible) things today!"

Jesus wants to live through you and give you life, His life

Luke 5:27-32 Levi also called Matthew the Tax Collector Follows Jesus (Matt. 9:9-13; Mark 2:13-17)

Luk 5:27 After these things, He(Jesus) went out, and saw (or noticed) a tax collector named Levi (also called Matthew 9:9 same story), sitting at the tax office (tax collector's booth). And He(Jesus) said to him (Levi), "Follow Me (as My disciple, means accepting Me as Lord and Savior and walking the same path of life that I walk and teach)."

Tax collectors were considered traitors and hated by many of the Jews because they collected monies for the Roman government and overcharged people to enrich themselves.

Luk 5:28 So he(**Levi**) left all (**left everything behind**), rose up (**stood up**), and followed Him(**Jesus**).

Luk 9:23 Then He(**Jesus**) said to them all (**not only to the twelve but to all who would follow Him**), "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily (**self must no longer rule our life's**), and follow Me.

Jhn 12:25 (**Jesus said**) "He who loves his life will lose it (**eventually when he dies**), and he who hates his life (**guards it, and is concerned with pleasing God**) in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Jhn 12:26 "If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am (**in heaven and all its glory**), there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

Luk 5:29 Then Levi (**AKA Matthew**) gave Him(**Jesus**) a great feast (**big banquet and reception**) in his own house (**Jesus was the guest of honor**). And there were a great number of tax collectors and others who sat down (**or reclined**) with them (**at a table**).

Luk 5:30 And their (**seeing those, with whom they were associating with**), (**the**) scribes (**teachers of religious law**) and the Pharisees complained (**Gk: gongyzō, Lit: means grumbling with discontent**) against His disciples, saying, "Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners (**including non-religious Jews**)?"

To eat and share a table with someone meant you were extending friendship, respect, and social approval. Pharisees' view through their oral traditions and strict reading of the law, that eating with sinners and outsiders was compromising ones holiness and frowned upon by the religious leaders. Jesus taught the table and the kingdom was open to everyone by grace, He ate with outcast and sinners and made known there was an invitation to all to enter the Kingdom.

Luk 5:31 Jesus answered and said to them (**Scribes, Religious teachers and Pharisees**), "Those who are well (**whole**), have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

Luk 5:32 "I have not come to call the righteous (**those who think they are righteous**), but sinners, to repentance (**to turn from sin and to seek God and His offer of righteousness**."

Jesus gives us an illustration, comparing those who are well to those who are righteous, and those who are sick as to sinners.

Luke 5:33-39 Jesus Is Questioned About Fasting (**Matt. 9:14–17; Mark 2:18–22**)

Luk 5:33 Then they (**some from the crowd**) said to Him(**Jesus**), "Why do the disciples of John (**the Baptist**) fast often (**practice fasting**) and make prayers (**pray regularly with**

special petitions), and likewise those (**disciples**) of the Pharisees, but Yours eat and drink (**or are eating and drinking**)?"

Luk 5:34 And He (**Jesus**) said (**responded**) to them, "Can you make the friends (**children**) of the bridegroom fast (**Lit: sons of the bridal-chamber**) while the bridegroom is with them?

Luk 5:35 "But the days will come when the bridegroom (**Jesus is claiming a divine role**) will be taken away (**has the idea of a sudden forceful removal, refers to Jesus' death**) from them; then they will fast (**and mourn**) in those days."(**Refers to the time Jesus is away between His death and resurrection**)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Bridegroom	God (Is. 62:5; Hos 2:19)	Jesus (Luk 5:34-Jn 3:29)	Jesus is God in flesh
Bride	Israel (unfaithful-loved)	The Church (Rev. 19:7)	Grated in (Rom 11), redeemed
Wedding Feast	Prophetic promise	Fulfilled in Christ	Salvation & union with Christ
Fast vs.-Feast	Mourning in waiting	Joy in His presence	Fasting resumes after His death

Luk 5:36 Then He(**Jesus**) spoke a parable to them: "No one puts a piece (**or tears a piece**) from a new garment on an old one; otherwise the new makes a tear, and also the piece that was taken out of the new does not match the old

Luk 5:37 "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new (**fermenting**) wine will burst the wineskins (**because of expansion**) and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined.

A skin from an animal was made into a bag. New wine was always put in a new bag so that the bag would stretch and expand as the wine continued to ferment, and then the bag would harden.

Luk 5:38 "But new wine must be put into new (**or fresh**) wineskins, and both are preserved.

Luk 5:39 "And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better (**just fine or it is good enough**)

<u>Symbol-Theme</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Old wineskins	The Old Covenant (Mosaic Law, religious system of the Pharisees)
New wine	The New Covenant (gospel of grace, Jesus' kingdom, indwelling Spirit)
New wineskins	A new living way to relate to God through Jesus, not the Law (a pointer)
The old is better	Resistance by those who like the old way, don't understand the new way

Jer 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah--

Jer 31:32 "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

Jer 31:33 "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

2Cor 3:6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Rom 7:6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Hebrews 8:6–13 (summarized) Jesus is the mediator of a better covenant, making the old one obsolete.

Jesus came to introduce new way, not to patch up something old. This is what salvation is all about. In doing this, Jesus doesn't destroy the old (the law), but He fulfills it completely.

Jesus is saying “You can't fit My kingdom, My grace, and My Spirit into the old religious systems, it was designed to point you to Me. Something entirely new is here, are you willing to receive it?”