

Steve Greenberg's Handout, Sunday Morning, September 28, 2025
Week 12: Luke 6:12-36 Jesus Teaching Kingdom Life (Beatitudes)

Luke 6:12-16 Jesus Selects Twelve Apostles (Parallel passages: Matt. 10:1-4; Mark 3:13-19)

Luk 6:12 Now it came to pass in those days (**before the next event**) that He(**Jesus**) went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God (**importance of prayer before choosing His apostles**).

Jesus often got alone to pray, here about to choose His disciples.

Luk 6:13 And when it was day (**early morning**), He(**Jesus**) called His disciples (**means: one who desires to surrender, learn, follow and obey Jesus**) (**Gk: mathētēs**) to Himself; and from them He chose twelve (**ordinary common people**) whom He also named apostles (**special messengers, to be sent out**) (**Gk: apostolos**).

Disciples: **means: one who desires to surrender, learn, follow and obey Jesus!**

About 6 to 9 months later, Jesus chose another seventy disciples and sent them out.

Luk 10:1 After these things the Lord appointed seventy other (**disciples**) also and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

Luk 10:17 Then the seventy (**disciples**) returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

Luk 10:19 "Behold (**Listen carefully**), I give you the authority to trample on serpents (**snakes**) and scorpions (**includes some physical protection**), and over all the power of the enemy (**Satan and his demonic kingdom**), and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Luk 10:20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice (**keep on rejoicing**) in this, that the spirits (**demonic spirits**) are subject (**submit**) to you (**because of me**), but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Apostles: In general usage this passage and others in reference to the "twelve," the word "apostles" is used in a technical sense of the twelve disciples initially chosen by Jesus, and then others, and then Paul later. An apostle was one who had witnessed Christ's resurrection (Acts 1:21-22) or (in Paul's case) had seen the resurrected Christ (1 Cor 9:1-2). They validated their apostleship by performing "signs and wonders and miracles" (2 Cor 12:12), and were the foundation of the church. Jesus is the great Apostle the perfectly sent One, the foundation of all apostles. Hebrews 3:1 tells us, Therefore, holy brethren (**brothers and sisters in Christ**), partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession (**confessed as savior**), Christ Jesus,

Luk 6:14 Simon, whom He (**Jesus, Jn 1:42, Mat 16:18**) also named Peter, and Andrew his brother (**Sons of Zebedee and Salome. Salome is believed to be a sister of Mary, the mother of Jesus**); James and John (**brothers**); Philip and Bartholomew (**also called Nathanael, Jn 1:45**).

Notice: The first two sets of brothers were Galilean fishermen and partners (Luke 5:7, 10–11).

Luk 6:15 Matthew (**also called Levi, the tax collector**) and Thomas (**called the Twin, Jn 11:16 ...**); James the son of Alphaeus (**not to be confused with James the brother of John or James the half-brother of Jesus**) (also called James the less, smaller or younger. His mother Mary (Gr Maria) is believed to be a sister or sister-in-law of Mary, the mother of Jesus), and Simon called the Zealot (**zealots were politically hostile and often violently opposed to Roman rule**).

Luk 6:16 Judas (**also called Thaddaeus, Matt. 10:3 and Mark 3:18**) the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor (**of Jesus, Luke 22:4, 48**).

Quote from Pastor Chuck Smith from history (3,000 series)

Here is where history does help us some and from the early traditions in written history of the church, we find a little bit about these twelve apostles and the reason why we don't know of what they did from the biblical standpoint is that they didn't hang around Jerusalem.

Thomas went to Syria then to Phrygia and ultimately to India and there evangelized. In India today they have the church of Thomas which they relate directly back to the ministry of Thomas.

Andrew was crucified on a X kind of a cross. Two of the arms of the cross were implanted in the ground. That's where you get the Saint Andrew's cross, the X shape cross, because he was crucified in that kind of a X shape cross.

Luke 6:17-19 Jesus Heals a Great Multitude (Parallel passage: Mark 3:7–12; and Cross-reference: Matt. 4:24-25)

Luk 6:17 And He(**Jesus**) came down (**from the mountain**) with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast (**coastal region, north**) of Tyre and Sidon (**probably included Gentiles**), who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases,

Luk 6:18 as well as those who were tormented (**troubled**) with unclean (**evil**) spirits (**demons**). And they were healed (**cured**).

Luk 6:19 And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for (**healing**) power went out from Him and healed them all.

Mat 14:36 and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well.

Notice: Power went out from Him

Mar 5:27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.

Mar 5:29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction.

Mar 5:30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

Mar 5:31 But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "

Mar 5:32 And He (Jesus) looked around to see her who had done this thing.

Mar 5:33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.

Luke 6:20-26 The Beatitudes (Similar passage: Matt. 5:1-12) (Luke lists four of the nine Beatitudes v 20-22 and follows with four antithetical woes v 24-26)

Luk 6:20 Then He(**Jesus**) lifted up His eyes toward His disciples, and said (**began speaking**): "Blessed (**spiritual goodness, peace, rest, happiness with joy**) are you poor (**in spirit, insignificant, not spiritual arrogant**), For yours is the kingdom of God (**now and forever**).

The Beatitudes (a series of blessings that Jesus spoke) Jesus preaching the Kingdom of God everywhere He went. Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6:20–49) and the Sermon on the Mount (Matt ch5–7). These sermons were given a number of times in various forms by Jesus as He taught the Kingdom Life to His Disciples.

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

Contrasting worldly life with the Kingdom of God

Jesus is not saying to live in poverty but being poor in spirit accompanied by trust in God. Such people belonging to the kingdom will receive the blessings of the kingdom.

Luk 6:21 Blessed (**forgiven, refreshed by God's grace**) are you who hunger now (**actively seeking right standing (righteousness) with God**), For you shall be filled (**complete and satisfied**). Blessed are you who weep now (**for your sins and repent**), For you shall laugh (**when the burden of sin is removed**).

Not only physically hungry but also hungry for God's help and presence. God ultimately will supply all our needs with his abundant provision and presence.

Psa 107:9 For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.

Psa 126:5 Those who sow in tears Shall reap in joy.

2Cor 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

Application:

James 2:15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,

James 2:16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

James 2:17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Luk 6:22 Blessed (**Oh how happy resting in His joy and goodness**) are you when men hate you, And when they exclude you (**not allowing you, or separate you from their group**), And revile (**reject, insult**) you, and cast out your name as evil, For the Son of Man's sake (**on account of you following Jesus the Son of Man**).

Jhn 15:19 "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

2Tim 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Luk 6:23 Rejoice in that day and leap (**or jump**) for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven (**beyond comprehension**), For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets (**remember their fathers of old, ancestors treated the ancient prophets badly**).

Trials refine you and make you more like Jesus

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

James 1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

James 1:4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets

Act 7:51 "You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.

Act 7:52 "Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, ...

Luk 6:24 "But woe to you (**judgment, regret sorrow is coming**), who are rich (**because you have placed your faith in possessions**), For you have received your consolation (**you had your happiness, nothing else will be awarded to you**).

Quote from David Guzik on Blue Letter Bible

In each of these paradoxical sayings, Jesus contrasted the current expectations of the kingdom with the spiritual reality of His Kingdom. Jesus told us that God does unexpected things. Jesus mocked the world's values. He exalted what the world despises and rejected

what the world admires. Jesus turned upside-down (rather, right-side-up) their perception of the Kingdom of God.

If God has blessed you with finances do not delight and trust in them but in God, because they come from God.

Luk 12:18 "So he (parable of the rich man that yielded plentifully) said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.

Luk 12:19 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." '

Luk 12:20 "But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?'

Luk 12:21 "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Jesus spoke these four woes (v 24-26) addressing the importance of salvation.

Luk 6:25 Woe to you who are full (**Lit: having been filled**) (**with food & prosperity**), For you shall hunger (**awful hunger awaits you**). Woe to you who laugh (**mocking laughter**) now (**enjoying the world system and self-indulgence**), For you shall mourn and weep (**they shall mourn and weep when God's judgment comes.**).

The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luk 16:25 "But Abraham said, 'Son (rich man), remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.

Luk 6:26 Woe to you (**sorrow awaits you**) when all men (**all people**) speak well of you (**or praise you**), For so did their fathers (**speak well of their ancestors and**), to the false prophets (**they praised the false teachers of their day, they tell you mans wisdom**).

This is a warning against seeking the approval of the men rather than being faithful to God.

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

Pro 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe (secure).

1Thes 2:4 But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

They will follow false teachers because of their false desires

2Tim 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

2Tim 4:4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

2Tim 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Luke 6:27-36 Love Your Enemies (Parallel passage: Matt. 5:38-48)

Luk 6:27 "But I say to you who hear (**pay attention, listen up**): Love (**meaning to seek the higher good and best for**) your enemies, do good (**continually**) to those who hate you,

Love (Gk. agape) is not so much a matter of emotion as it is of doing things for the benefit of another person with an unselfish concern.

Jesus makes it clear you will have enemies.

Luk 6:28 "bless (**show kindness to**) those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you (**hurt, mistreat, abuse**).

This abilities depend on trust and dependence on God as He directs.

Rom 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Luk 6:29 "To him who strikes you on the one cheek (**slaps you on one cheek, as an insult, do not retaliate, but if need be**) offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic (**undershirt**) either (**Gr khiton, the garment worn next to the skin**).

As believers we will often be subject to abuse or being taken advantage of, we are to face such rejection as the Lord leads by being loving and compassionate rather than by retaliating.

Mat 5:41 And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two.

Jesus resisted evil. Jesus demonstrated with His life that evil should and must be resisted, such as when He turned tables in the temple and when He confronted the religious leaders for their evils.

Luk 6:30 "Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods, do not ask (**demand, or try to get**) them back.

Generally Christians should help those who are truly in need as God has provided so share. Seek the Lord in all cases, always desiring to be generous, and communicate truth in love.

Give Generosity to the Poor

Deu 15:7 "If there is among you a poor man of your brethren, within any of the gates in your land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother,

Deu 15:8 "but you shall open your hand wide to him and willingly lend him sufficient for his need, whatever he needs.

We are not called to give foolishly

2Thes 3:10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat (don't encourage a lazy person to stay lazy).

Luk 6:31 "And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise (**treat others, the same way you want them to treat you**).

Mat 7:12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets (The Golden Rule).

Luk 6:32 "But if you love (**only**) those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

Mat 5:46 "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

Luk 6:33 "And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit (**or benefit**) is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

Luk 6:34 "And if you lend (**money and things**) to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back (**to be repaid in full**).

Mat 5:42 "Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

Luk 6:35 "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great (**abundant**), and you will be sons of the Most High (**already sons demonstrating Gods love and care**). For He is kind (**and gracious**) to the unthankful (**ungrateful**) and evil (**wicked**).

Luk 6:36 "Therefore be merciful (**become compassionate, tenderhearted**), just as your Father (**in Heaven**) also is merciful.

Mat 5:48 "Therefore you shall be perfect (growing in spiritual maturity through Christ in you), just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

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