**Luke 4-6**

Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

**4**Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, **2**where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

**3**The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”

**4**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’”

**5**The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. **6**And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. **7**If you worship me, it will all be yours.”

**8**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

**9**The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. **10**For it is written: “‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; **11**they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” **12**Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **13**When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

**14**Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. **15**He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

**16**He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, **17**and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

**18**“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, **19**to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

**20**Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. **21**He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

**22**All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked. **23**Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

**24**“Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. **25**I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. **26**Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. **27**And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed - only Naaman the Syrian.”

**28**All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. **29**They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. **30**But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

**31**Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people. **32**They were amazed at his teaching, because his words had authority.

**33**In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, **34**“Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are - the Holy One of God!” **35**“Be quiet!” Jesus said sternly. “Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

**36**All the people were amazed and said to each other, “What words these are! With authority and power he gives orders to impure spirits and they come out!” **37**And the news about him spread throughout the surrounding area.

Jesus Heals Many

**38**Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. **39**So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

**40**At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. **41**Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

**42**At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. **43**But he said, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.” **44**And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

**5**One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. **2**He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. **3**He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

**4**When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” **5**Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”

**6**When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. **7**So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

**8**When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!” **9**For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, **10**and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” **11**So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy

**12**While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.” **13**Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” And immediately the leprosy left him.

**14**Then Jesus ordered him, “Don’t tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.”

**15**Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. **16**But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man

**17**One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick. **18**Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. **19**When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

**20**When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.” **21**The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

**22**Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? **23**Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? **24**But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” **25**Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. **26**Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

Jesus Calls Levi and Eats With Sinners

**27**After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. “Follow me,” Jesus said to him, **28**and Levi got up, left everything and followed him. **29**Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. **30**But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” **31**Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. **32**I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Jesus Questioned About Fasting

**33**They said to him, “John’s disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking.”

**34**Jesus answered, “Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? **35**But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast.”

**36**He told them this parable: “No one tears a piece out of a new garment to patch an old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. **37**And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. **38**No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. **39**And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, ‘The old is better.’”

Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

**6**One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and his disciples began to pick some heads of grain, rub them in their hands and eat the kernels. **2**Some of the Pharisees asked, “Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?”

**3**Jesus answered them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? **4**He entered the house of God, and taking the consecrated bread, he ate what is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.” **5**Then Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

**6**On another Sabbath he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. **7**The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. **8**But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, “Get up and stand in front of everyone.” So he got up and stood there.

**9**Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?”

**10**He looked around at them all, and then said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was completely restored. **11**But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.

The Twelve Apostles

**12**One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. **13**When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: **14**Simon (whom he named Peter), his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, **15**Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, **16**Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Blessings and Woes

**17**He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, **18**who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, **19**and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

**20**Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
    for yours is the kingdom of God.
**21**Blessed are you who hunger now,
    for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who weep now,
    for you will laugh.
**22**Blessed are you when people hate you,
    when they exclude you and insult you
    and reject your name as evil,
        because of the Son of Man.

**23“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.**

**24**“But woe to you who are rich,
    for you have already received your comfort.
**25**Woe to you who are well fed now,
    for you will go hungry.
Woe to you who laugh now,
    for you will mourn and weep.
**26**Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
    for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Love for Enemies

**27**“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, **28**bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. **29**If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. **30**Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. **31**Do to others as you would have them do to you.

**32**“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. **33**And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. **34**And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. **35**But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. **36**Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Judging Others

**37**“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **38**Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

**39**He also told them this parable: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit? **40**The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.

**41**“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? **42**How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

A Tree and Its Fruit

**43**“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. **44**Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briers. **45**A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

The Wise and Foolish Builders

**46**“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? **47**As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. **48**They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. **49**But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”