

Sun., Jan. 23

Memory Verse: "Jesus said to them, 'I must preach the good news of God's kingdom in other cities too, for this is why I was sent.'" -Luke 4:43

Message: "The Son of Man 4: The Word in Action"

Text: "They were all shaken and said to each other, 'What kind of word is this, that He can command unclean spirits with authority and power, and they leave?'" -Luke 4:36

Scripture: Luke 4:31-44

Blurb: In Luke 4 we see what it means that Jesus is the Word of God. When He teaches, preaches and commands, people's lives are changed. Miracles happen. Demons run. In Jesus we see the Word of God in action. We can invite Him to be active in our lives, but be ready, for when we do, He calls us to action as well!

[Recorded Worship Beginning]

WELCOME -Pastor Andrew

MEMORY VERSE -Pastor Andrew

"Jesus said to them, 'I must preach the good news of God's kingdom in other cities too, for this is why I was sent.'" -Luke 4:43

WORSHIP MUSIC SET -Pastor Andrew

Invitacion Fountain

Blessed to Be a Blessing

Worship prayer -Pastor Andrew

[Live Worship Beginning]

GATHERING SONG: *Not Just Stories* -Sanctify

WELCOME -Pastor David

MEMORY VERSE -Pastor David

"Jesus said to them, 'I must preach the good news of God's kingdom in other cities too, for this is why I was sent.'" -Luke 4:43

WORSHIP MUSIC SET -Sanctify

One True God

Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit

Invitacion Fountain

Worship prayer -Pastor Andrew

[Both Recorded & Live Worship]

READING OF SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-4

In Luke 4 when Jesus describes the purpose of His new calling to His hometown, He quotes from the prophet Isaiah. As we go back and read this passage again, listen for how God gives His prophet and messiah the ministry of speaking good words of good news.

Isaiah 61:1-4,

- 1 The Lord God's spirit is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me
to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim release for captives,
and liberation for prisoners,
- 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and a day of vindication for our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
- 3 to provide for Zion's mourners,
to give them a crown in place of ashes,
oil of joy in place of mourning,
a mantle of praise in place of discouragement.
They will be called Oaks of Righteousness,
planted by the Lord to glorify Himself.
- 4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins;
they will restore formerly deserted places;
they will renew ruined cities,
places deserted in generations past.

GROW MOMENT: Grow Groups Sign Up -Pastor David

PRAYERS: "Praying through Isaiah 61:1-4" -Pastor David

PPT: Slides of Isaiah 61:1-4

GENERATIONAL BRIDGE: "Fathers 4" -Pastor Andrew

MESSAGE: The Son of Man (Luke 3-6) 4: "Word in Action"

PP#1: The Son of Man: "Word in Action"

"They were all shaken and said to each other, 'What kind of word is this, that He can command unclean spirits with authority and power, and they leave?'" -Luke 4:36

The Son of Man: "Word in Action." Luke 4:36, "They were all shaken and said to each other, 'What kind of word is this, that He can command unclean spirits with authority and power, and they leave?'"

PP#2: *Image of Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist*

Last week, Pastor Andrew took us through the first half of Luke 4. In Luke 3, remember, Jesus (at the age of 30), is prompted by the Holy Spirit to begin His public ministry. He leaves His home in Nazareth, goes down to the Jordan River and is baptized by John the Baptist, a relative of His. At that point, Luke inserts Jesus' lineage as a pedigree to establish His trustworthy identity.

PP#3: *Image of Jesus being tempted by the devil*

Then, in chapter 4, Jesus immediately spars with the devil. The Holy Spirit that had been the main actor during Jesus birth narrative is again leading everything. He calls Jesus to be baptized, and then, leads Jesus immediately into the wilderness. For 40 days Jesus wrestles with His life's purpose and priorities, agreeing to submit to God's plan for His life. The devil is right there, mind you, tempting Jesus with all other kinds of ideas for His life. As we overheard this story, we hear the other ways that the devil proposed Jesus could live His earthly life. But those are all self-serving, and not self-sacrificing. That is the way of the devil, not the way of God. Jesus faithfully chooses God's way.

PP#4: Luke 4

Theme word: "word"

Holy Spirit directs

Spiritual warfare begins

Jesus begins His public ministry

Jesus transfers from Nazareth to Capernaum

Healings of body and spirit

Now, today we're looking at the last half of Luke 4. But we need to get a bit of a running start. The reason is that this chapter is threaded by the theme of "word." Draw a line to your chapter 4 heading and write: Theme word: "word." If you have room, you can make some of these other notes, too. Jesus' ministry begins, and immediately spiritual warfare erupts. This is another indication that Jesus is the messiah - spiritual forces are on the move! As Jesus begins His public ministry, He transfers His headquarters from His home village of Nazareth to a sea village on the Sea of Galilee named Capernaum. That ministry includes Jesus healing: both physically and spiritually.

PP#5: Jesus and the Word of God in Luke 4

[Jesus IS the Word in John (John 1:1-3, 1:14, etc.)]

Jesus' purpose: "to proclaim" (Luke 4:18-19, Isaiah 61)

Teaches (Luke 4:15, 21, 31-32)

Preaches (4:18-19, 22, 43-44)

Commands (4:35-36, 39, 41)

Jesus *speaks* God's Word: The Good News (4:43)

Jesus speaks with grace (4:22), authority (4:32) and power (4:35)

Word about Jesus spreads among the people (4:14-15, 22, 32, 37)

Now, the theme word here is "word" - both spoken and written. Jesus is the Word of God, but Luke only *shows* it, unlike John who says it flat out. Jesus' purpose is to *proclaim and declare* the Good News, by teaching, preaching, and commanding the spiritual forces. And Jesus, the people notice, *speaks* differently than the other teachers of God, for Jesus speaks with grace, authority and power. And Jesus, we see at the end of Luke 4, becomes a wandering preacher, traveling from village to village.

PP#6: Jesus “speaking” in Luke 4

<u>Speaks:</u>	<u>Argues/Against:</u>	<u>Well Received:</u>
4:1-13	With the devil	
4:14-15		In Galilee
4:16-20/Isaiah 61:1-4	Oppressors	“Good news”
4:21-22		In Nazareth
4:23-30	In Nazareth	
4:31-32		In Capernaum
4:33-35	Demons	
4:36-37		Surrounding region
3:38-41	Demons	
3:42-44		Good News to others

I’ve made a chart for Jesus’ speaking in Luke 4. Notice that it seems to flip flop back and forth throughout this chapter. Jesus speaks against the spiritual forces and powers right as He begins His ministry. And, at least initially in most cases (except in Nazareth) He is well received and spoken well of by others. The chapter starts with Jesus speaking against the devil, but then is well spoken of in Galilee. When He quotes His purpose from Isaiah 61, He explains that His purpose is to speak against corrupt powers but to speak liberation to the oppressed. Initially in Nazareth His home town folk speak well of Him, but when He speaks that He will not show them special favor, they speak against Him. He goes to Capernaum, where the people speak well of Him. Then He starts speaking against demons and ailments, which bring favorable reports from the people. Let’s unpack this a bit.

PP#7: Luke 4:31-44 (CEB) [*Include a map showing Nazareth and Capernaum*]

- 31 Jesus went down to the city of Capernaum in Galilee and taught the people each Sabbath.
32 They were amazed by His teaching because He delivered His message with authority.

Turn to Luke 4, and we’ll start with verse 31. Jesus has just been rejected in His home town, so He goes back to the fishing village of Capernaum. Draw a line to verse 31 and note, “Jesus moves to Capernaum.” Remember He was raised in the faithful religious patterns of His parents? We see that continuing in verse 31! “Jesus went down [note “elevation,” Nazareth is up in the hills and Capernaum is down on the lake below sea level] to the city of Capernaum in Galilee and taught the people each Sabbath.” Underline “taught.” Religious practices: He goes to the synagogue each week. As a new arrival, it was Jewish custom to invite the new man to teach. Verse 32, “They were amazed by His teaching [underline “teaching”] because He delivered [underline “delivered”] His message with authority.” Jesus’ teaching was strangely different, with authority. It seemed like He had a special anointing to deliver God’s word!

Now, immediately there is a spiritual confrontation. A person in their community, who was with them at synagogue, had a demon! Kinda shocking, right? How was that demon able to be right there in the reading of God’s word? I would say that churches are not necessarily safe places from demons. Even here we must continue fervently in prayer! But notice there is immediate confrontation spiritually. This is a demonstration of the authenticity of Jesus’ power. God is showing up in Jesus not just to preach and teach and to lead and to be an example. Jesus shows up wielding God’s awesome power, and the demonic knows it means war! By verses 33-36 write “spiritual warfare.”

PP#8: Luke 4:31-44 (CEB)

33 A man in the synagogue had the spirit of an unclean demon. He screamed, 34 “Hey! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are. You are the holy one from God.”

35 “Silence!” Jesus said, speaking harshly to the demon. “Come out of him!” The demon threw the man down before them, then came out of him without harming him.

36 They were all shaken and said to each other, “What kind of word is this, that He can command unclean spirits with authority and power, and they leave?” 37 Reports about Him spread everywhere in the surrounding region.

Let’s read them. Verse 33, “A man in the synagogue had the spirit of an unclean demon. He screamed, 34 ‘Hey! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are. You are the holy one from God.’” Draw a line to this in verse 34 and write, “Spiritual proof Jesus is the Savior.” Jesus now speaks His words with command authority! Verse 35, “‘Silence!’ Jesus said, speaking harshly to the demon. [Underline “speaking.”] ‘Come out of him!’ The demon threw the man down before them, then came out of him without harming him.” Make a note to verse 35 and say, “Jesus has complete authority.” The demon could not challenge Him. The demon is a total victim! He must only do whatever Jesus says. Jesus is in complete control in the spiritual realm!

And the people notice! Verse 36, “They were all shaken and said to each other, ‘What kind of word [underline “word”] is this, that He can command [underline “command”] unclean spirits with authority and power, and they leave?” 37 Reports about Him spread everywhere in the surrounding region.”

PP#9: Jesus speaks with power/authority

When Jesus speaks, reality changes

Those who follow Jesus experience change

Jesus followers are changed by Jesus

Jesus—who is the Word of God—His public ministry is a ministry of word, teaching and preaching the Good News. But notice that in Jesus, the word *becomes action*! He speaks and creates new realities, in power! This is how God creates, right, by speaking! God’s Word is power. It is authority. And this is why the people are so shocked when Jesus comes on the scene. They’re used to rabbis and scribes and teachers of the Law, who merely instruct. But this Jesus is different. He’s not just about information and learning, He’s about power and transformation. And this is the main takeaway for us today. We are watching Jesus through Luke, and as we first see Him in public, we see action! We see power. We see lives changed. We see dark spiritual forces routed. Jesus is not like the other teachers. He teaches with authority! That’s what draws the people to Him.

And this is what draws US to Him! We see in Jesus a power and authority that changes lives. We’re not interested in Jesus because He says interesting things. We’re not drawn to Jesus because He makes us think and introspect. We don’t choose to follow Jesus because He provides more information. We are after change, we need a power that can do something different. We’ve been fighting and pushing and struggling on our own, and our strength isn’t sufficient. We can’t win. We are looking for a power that can bring relief, bring victory over the powers that hold us down, and bring liberation. Not just talk about it, but make it happen! We are as excited as the people of Capernaum. “He’s doing what? Wow! Perhaps that means He could do something with me and in my life, too! I better pay attention to this Jesus!”

PP#10: Luke 4:31-44 (CEB)

38 After leaving the synagogue, Jesus went home with Simon. Simon's mother-in-law was sick with a high fever, and the family asked Jesus to help her. 39 He bent over her and spoke harshly to the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and served them.

Let's watch Jesus some more, and see what happens. Does Jesus' power continue? Verse 38, "38 After leaving the synagogue, Jesus went home with Simon. Simon's mother-in-law was sick with a high fever, and the family asked Jesus to help her. He bent over her and spoke harshly [underline "spoke harshly"] to the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and served them."

Jesus has power over fevers and illnesses, too! Now, it might be—actually very likely—that Jesus even moved in with Simon. Draw a line to this verse and make the note, "Simon was married. See 1 Cor. 9:5." We don't really know if any of the other *original* apostles were ever married. And we don't know if Peter's wife was still alive at this point, for the Bible never mentions her directly.

PP#11: Jesus: God's Word in Action

Jesus has power to change you

Jesus heals for a purpose

When Jesus heals us, we respond by serving Him

But this wonderful woman is healed when Jesus comes. A couple of quick applications here. One is that like earlier in the chapter, when Jesus draws attention to the days of Elijah when not everyone was healed. Again here, Peter's mother-in-law was, but it doesn't say anything about all the other people in the other homes. When God heals, you see, it's not usually just for the sake of making the ill person well. God is usually doing something bigger. Like here, this healing is adding validity to the authority of what Jesus says. Jesus speaks about God, and to prove that what He says is true, He performs acts of power. Where Jesus is, there is power. Jesus is God's Word in action! It shows us why we should believe in Jesus and follow Him.

The other passing application I see here is that Peter's mother-in-law is a model for us. When she is healed physically by Jesus, she gets up and serves Him. When we are healed by Jesus, we, too, get up and serve Him. We are watching Jesus because we need healing. Here we see what we do when Jesus heals us.

PP#12: Luke 4:31-44 (CEB)

40 When the sun was setting, everyone brought to Jesus relatives and acquaintances with all kinds of diseases. Placing His hands on each of them, He healed them. 41 Demons also came out of many people. They screamed, "You are God's Son." But He spoke harshly to them and wouldn't allow them to speak because they recognized that He was the Christ. 42 When daybreak arrived, Jesus went to a deserted place. The crowds were looking for Him. When they found Him, they tried to keep Him from leaving them. 43 But He said to them, "I must preach the good news of God's kingdom in other cities too, for this is why I was sent." 44 So He continued preaching in the Judean synagogues.

Well, the world got out that Jesus was a healer. Everyone started to come who were sick, or bring those who were sick. Makes sense, right? Verse 40, "When the sun was setting, everyone brought to Jesus relatives and acquaintances with all kinds of diseases. Placing His hands on each of them, He healed them." Notice Jesus touches them. There's something here about the personal

touch of Jesus. He takes time and attention to touch each individual person. It's personal for Him, not just a mass healing. Jesus sees each individual person He heals.

Verse 41, again, it erupts into spiritual warfare and Jesus performs spiritual healings, too, "Demons also came out of many people. They screamed, 'You are God's Son.'" Luke records the validation of the demonic, too, testifying that Jesus is God's Son and Savior! "But He spoke harshly to them [spoke harshly] and wouldn't allow them to speak [speak] because they recognized that He was the Christ." Jesus knew the people weren't ready to receive the full truth yet. Teaching and healing is only a partial picture of the Good News. It also requires great sacrifice. Until Jesus' death and resurrection, Jesus doesn't let the demons say too much.

All night long Jesus met with people. Whew! Verse 42 "When daybreak arrived, Jesus went to a deserted place." Jesus needs to get away and recharge. But there's more here. We see that whenever Jesus is very successful, He withdraws so not to get sucked up into the success. He wants to keep His mission on the purpose God has for Him. That takes focus. That takes recentering.

But the crowds, however, are enamored by the healings, and they want more of it. They don't want Jesus or His message, really. They want His healing. This is the problem with divine healings. It causes us people to focus on the benefits of Jesus and not the purpose of Jesus. We tend to just want what *we* want, rather than what God wants. This is why, I think, that God never makes His work all about our physical healings. Physical healings, in the Gospels, always serve to point people *to the God* of the healings, rather than luring God's people to focus on the healings themselves. Application here for us: why do you want God? Do you want Him, or do you just want Him merely to fix your problems?

The crowds want Jesus just to fix their problems, and so He withdraws. Continuing with verse 42, "The crowds were looking for Him. When they found Him, they tried to keep Him from leaving them." They want Him to stay there and keep doing His miracles. Verse 43 "But He said to them, 'I must preach [preach] the good news of God's kingdom in other cities too, for this is why I was sent.' 44 So He continued preaching [preach] in the Judean synagogues."

Jesus wasn't just for them. Jesus is also for others. That's why He came. That's another application for us. Do we tend to keep Jesus for ourselves? Do we treat Him like our personal fixer? Or do we get up and serve...do we offer Jesus to others?

Draw a note to verse 44 and write, "Jesus a wandering preacher." Jesus doesn't stay in one place too long. He is driven by His mission to take God's Good News to others. And this is one last quick application for us. When we choose Jesus, are we ready to truly follow? Jesus is always on the move. He wants to reach new people. Are we willing to keep up and keep moving? Or do we want to stay where it is comfortable and familiar, and ask Jesus to hang out where we are?

PP#13: *An image for Jesus inviting us to join Him, follow Him.*

Jesus is the Word of God, and in this first chapter of His public ministry, we see the Word of God in action. He is teaching and preaching God's Good News, embodying God's Word. We also see Him sparring with the demonic, healing sicknesses, and wielding power. This again makes us ask, "Who is this Jesus?" And in this chapter Luke records the demons so we can hear them say, "He is God's Son, the Savior." We see Jesus changing lives and bringing physical and spiritual healing. And we ask ourselves, are we willing to follow Him? Are we ready to, yet? Are we wanting Him to come home with us, or are we willing to go out with Him?

You and I, when we follow Jesus, are also to be God's word in action!

Amen.

SONG: *Blessed to Be a Blessing* -Sanctify

OFFERING: -Pastor David

-Give of your monies to God's work through this church. You can give in person, mail it in, drop it off or, most conveniently, you can make an electronic transfer or a debit card payment on the church website or by using the "square" on the bulletin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS -Pastor David

Wednesday night: Chili, and groups

Next Sunday's message: The Son of Man: Jesus Healing

Read ahead: Luke 5:1-15

MEMORY VERSE -Pastor David

"Jesus said to them, 'I must preach the good news of God's kingdom in other cities too, for this is why I was sent.'" -Luke 4:43

BENEDICTION -Pastor David

POSTLUDE -Sanctify