

# “Humility”

## *Jesus & Discipleship in the Gospel of Luke*



## Study Guide

# Preface

During 2020, we went through a strategic planning process, and one of the key areas that emerged to ensure our health and vibrancy as Wellspring was **Growth Groups**. You might know them by another name, but the gist is the same: a group of people (smaller than Sunday church), committed to life with each other and with Jesus, listening to His word and keeping in step with His Spirit.

In a diverse church like Wellspring, Growth Groups unite us, keep us close, and encourage our flourishing. The purpose of this **study guide** is to help you explore our weekly preaching focus by taking you to the bible to read and reflect for yourself. Use it in your Growth Groups; use it for solo reflection.

When it comes to “humility”, we need all the help we can get (myself included)! So I hope this offering will help you to marvel afresh at our humble Jesus, and to seek after your own humble discipleship.

Sermons can be listened to here: <https://www.wellspring.org.au/sermons/>

May God bless us in our hearing and doing His word.

**Rob Imberger**

Senior Pastor

10am Congregation Pastor

# Weeks 1-2

## **Jan 31: Luke 2:39-52**

- How would you define “humility”? What examples have informed that definition?
- Little is known about Jesus’ childhood and adolescence, right up until the age of 30, other than his living and working with his mother and father in Nazareth. Does this matter? Why/why not?
- Read Colossians 1:15-20. Then re-read Luke 2:51-52. How was Jesus humble?
- If Jesus was truly human as a child and adolescent, what does this mean for the discipleship of children and teenagers?
- Read Hebrews 5:1-9. Explore this phrase “learned obedience” some more.

## **Feb 7: Luke 6:20-26**

- Read the parallel passage in Matthew 5:1-12. What similarities/ differences do you notice?
- “Humility does not equal weakness”. Discuss this statement.
- List out the ‘reversals’ that Jesus makes. How do these contrast with the world’s values?
- Which phrase here from Jesus challenges you the most? Which words of Jesus comfort you the most? Which saying would like to pass onto a friend?

# Weeks 3-4

## **Feb 14: Luke 7:36-8:3**

- Re-read Lk 7:36-39 slowly. Imagine the scene as you're doing so. If in a group, allow one person to narrate while others are still and silent.
- Trace Jesus' interactions with women throughout Luke's Gospel. What do you learn from these? Eg. Lk 4:38-39; Lk 7:11-7; Lk 8:1-3; Lk 8:40-56; Lk 10:38-42; Lk 13:10-17; Lk 21:1-4; Lk 24:1-12
- "The one who is forgiven little loves little." Work backwards from that for your own life. To what degree does your love for Jesus reflect how aware you are of your forgiveness from him?

## **Feb 21: Luke 22:10-20**

- This marks the first Sunday in Lent. What has your past experience been of this season of the church?
- Read Exodus 12:1-29. How does this background affect your understanding of Lk 22?
- "Jesus Christ is both high priest and sacrifice." Discuss this statement, in light of the passage.
- Reflect on your relationship with the sacrament known as the Lord's Supper/Holy Communion/Eucharist. What has it meant for you up to now? What light is shed on it by this passage?

# Weeks 5-6

## **Feb 28: Luke 22:1-6, 21-30**

- The actions of Judas are like bookends to Jesus' Last Supper. How does that affect your reading of what's in the middle?
- "Then Satan entered Judas..." How do we make sense of this, when it is Judas' choice to betray Jesus (Mark 14:43-45)?
- Why does Jesus take the opportunity to teach on humility in verses 25-30 on the night before his death?
- Think of a relationship you have that is difficult and conflicted; perhaps you have an enemy. How is God calling you to respond?

## **Mar 7: Luke 9:23-27**

- These may be familiar words to you. So re-read them slowly, line by line, taking note of what emotions (or lack of) they provoke.
- Summarise the life of "follower of Jesus" according to this passage. Now compare that to how you or others have explained (when asked) what being a Christian means.
- Have you considered what it would be like to have Jesus "ashamed" of you (verse 26)?
- Read Luke 14:25-27. How have you obeyed this in your own life?

# Weeks 7-8

## **Mar 14: Luke 14:1-14**

- In verses 1-6, Jesus again demonstrates a priority on compassion, not religious observance. Spend a moment thanking and seeking him for healing: for yourself or others.
- John Dickson defines humility as when “someone willingly holds power in service of others, so that the good of others, not self, comes first”. How does that relate to verses 7-14 especially?
- Who are the modern-day equivalents of verse 13 people in your life/community/neighbourhood? How are you going obeying Jesus with them?
- What would obedience to Luke 14 look like for a local church? Give examples.

## **Mar 21: Luke 18:9-14**

- Re-read the passage but stop at verse 9. If you were Jesus, what sort of story would you tell to make the point?
- List out in two columns the posture and speech content of the Pharisee and the tax collector. What do you notice?
- What is humble about the tax collector’s prayer in verse 13?
- Read Romans 10:9-13 to explore the tax collector as a case in point.

# Week 9

## **Mar 28: Luke 19:28-44**

- Read Zechariah 9:9-10. Why is it significant that Zechariah points out something about Jesus' "humble" character?
- Re-read Zechariah 9:10. How has this been fulfilled in Jesus?
- Look ahead (Lk 19:45 – 23:44) to see what takes place during Jesus' final week on earth.
- Read Philippians 2:5-8. How can you (individually) and we (corporately) "adopt the same attitude of Christ Jesus" when in positions of power?

## Keen to join a Growth Group?

We'd love to see you BELONG in a Wellspring Growth Group where you can SHARE life together as you GROW in fellowship and faith. Contact your Growth Group Coordinator 8am noel@wellspring.org.au, 10am rob@wellspring.org.au, 2pm kwan@wellspring.org.au, Resonate resonate@wellspring.org.au

## Keen to explore spiritual gifts?

1. Your **Growth Group** is the best place to start. Get some trusted people together, ask them how they see you building up the church (now and potentially), then pray and listen for how God reveals.
2. Spiritual gift '**inventories**' are useful to get a general idea, if you're a little stuck. They're not tests, nor will they always be accurate: but they ask good questions. Copies are available from the Wellspring office.
3. Have an **interview** with a Wellspring staff member. They can help you intentionally sift your reflections and people's opinions.
4. Have a go! There's only one way to find out if the Holy Spirit has given you this gift, and that is to try.

## What is Lent?

Here are some great online resources to understand and make the most this season:

- Article – [“Why Bother with Lent?”](#)
- Video – [Common Grace Lent series](#)
- Daily devotional – [“Preparing Our Hearts for Easter”](#)
- Family devotional – [Kids Friendly ministries](#)



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