

Growth Group Studies

LUKE STUDIES + MEET JESUS TRAINING / TERM 1 2024

| Study | Passage | Theme |
|---------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Study 1 | Luke 14:25-35 | Counting the cost |
| Study 2 | Luke 15 | Seeking the lost |
| Study 3 | Luke 16:1-18 | Shrewd for God |
| Study 4 | Helping people Meet Jesus | Motivation |
| Study 5 | Helping people Meet Jesus | Barriers |
| Study 6 | Helping people Meet Jesus | Partnership with God |
| Study 7 | Helping people Meet Jesus | Partnership with each other |
| Study 8 | John 18-21 | Easter Reflection |
| Study 9 | Meet Jesus Event | Planning and Prayer |

CONTENTS

MEMORY VERSE(S)

Then Jesus told them this parable:

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, '**Rejoice with me;** *I have found my lost sheep.'*" (Luke 15:3-6)



Term 1 Program

Luke Series at Church

On Sundays, we'll be exploring Luke 14-18. To gain the most from the sermon, read over Luke in your personal or family devotions beforehand.



| Week 1 | 4 Feb | 14:25-35 | Count |
|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| Week 2 | 11 Feb | 15 | Seekir |
| Week 3 | 18 Feb | 16:1-18 | Shrew |
| Week 4 | 25 Feb | 16:19-31 | Convi |
| Week 5 | 3 Mar | 17:1-19 | All yo |
| Week 6 | 10 Mar | 17:20-37 | God's |
| Week 7 | 17 Mar | 18:1-8 | Persis |
| Week 8 | 24 Mar | 18:9-14 | Seek ı |

Counting the cost Seeking the lost Shrewd for God Convincing Christianity All you need is faith God's kingdom comes Persistence matters Seek mercy not justice

Meet Jesus Mission

We're excited to be partnering in a nation-wide mission. Read more about it: **meetjesus.au**



| Good Fri | 29 Mar | Meet Jesus - In his death. |
|----------|--------|--|
| Easter | 31 Mar | Meet Jesus - In his resurrection. |
| Week 10 | 7 Apr | Meet Jesus - Does God really care? |
| Hols | 14 Apr | Meet Jesus - Why is life so hard? |
| Hols | 21 Apr | Meet Jesus - What's the point of anything? |
| Hols | 28 Apr | Meet Jesus - What do you want? |

Pre-Study - Luke Overview

In 2022, 2023 and Summer holidays 2024, we studied Luke chapters 1-13. So to reorientate ourselves, here's a quick overview of Luke to do at home!

QUICK OVERVIEW OF LUKE

What is it? Luke's Gospel is the longest book in the New Testament. Like the other 3 Gospels, it is a biography about Jesus. It is a careful historical investigation (Luke 1:3), and the first part of the 2 volumes of "Luke-Acts". Read Acts 1:1-2 to see how Luke summarises his "former book".

Who wrote it? "Luke-Acts" was written by a man called Luke (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-2). By word count, Luke wrote about a quarter of the New Testament - more than even the apostle Paul's 13 New Testament letters combined! Luke was a doctor (Colossians 4:14) and one of Paul's travelling companions (2 Timothy 4:11; Philemon 24, see "we" and "us" passages in Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-28:16).

Unlike the other Gospel writers, Dr Luke was not an eyewitness of Jesus. Rather, he was a very careful researcher. The fact that Dr Luke had a Greek name and used very good Greek language suggests he is an educated Gentile.

Who received it? Specifically, Dr Luke wrote for "most excellent Theophilus" (Luke 1:3; Acts 1:1). While some writers question

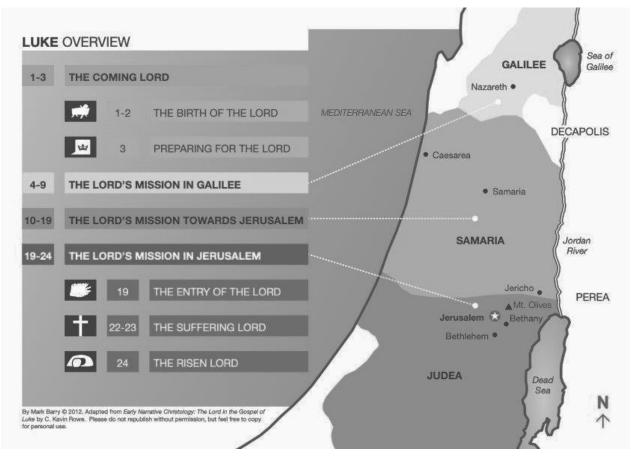
whether Theophilus was actual or symbolic (his name means "God lover") and whether he was a Christian convert or an interested outsider, Luke 1:3-4 reads like Theophilus is a real man of some standing, who had been taught about Jesus but wants more certainty, and so may have commissioned the writing of Luke.

More generally, Dr Luke wrote for the second generation church (predominantly Gentiles), who had not been eye-witnesses to Jesus and needed "certainty about the things they had been taught" (1:4), like every generation since.

When was it written? Luke's Gospel seems to have been written in the late 50s or early 60s, as the book of Acts concludes before the deaths of Paul and Peter, which occurred during the Christian persecution by Emperor Nero in the late 60s. Luke's Gospel may have been written during Paul's two year imprisonment in Jerusalem (Acts 21:33; 24:27) or his two year imprisonment in Rome (Acts 28:30).

How does it fit together? Luke's Gospel gives us *certainty* that Jesus is fulfilling God's Old Testament promises about the *Saviour of the world* (1:1-4; 4:21; 18:31, 22:37, 24:44-49). Then Acts shows the outworking of this, with the *Mission to the World* (Acts 1:1-8, 16, 3:18, 13:27, 33).

Мар



Quick note: It's tempting to quickly apply the text to us. But Dr Luke writes the unique history about our Saviour (what he did for us) so that we will have certainty that everything is fulfilled in him. For example, in 4:1-13, the way Jesus deals with temptation is not primarily a model for us, but as a substitute for us. That is, unlike every human (represented in Adam), Jesus is the perfect Son of God (3:38) and the new/second Adam who is obedient to the Father.

Study 1 - Luke 14:25-35

GETTING STARTED

Someone asks: "Why should I become a Christian?" How would you answer?

READ LUKE 14:25-27

1. Is Jesus glad to have large crowds following him (v25)? What words stand out in v26-27? Why does Jesus say what he does (cf 14:15-24, 13:24-27)?

2. "We normally think of "hate" in terms of opposition ... but it is best to take Jesus' words here in terms of priority: Jesus must have our absolute loyalty and commitment. If love for parents or children or even one's own life threaten to interfere with that commitment, a disciple must choose to follow the will of Jesus." (McKinley, Luke 12-24 for you, p50).

Since becoming a Christian, have you ever had to choose between family and Jesus in big or small ways?

READ LUKE 14:28-35

1. Jesus tells 3 parables. Summarise them in your own words.

| Parable | Summary |
|------------------------|---------|
| Parable 1 (v28-30) | |
| Parable 2 (v31-33) | |
| Parable 3 (v34-35a) | |

2. Note that the 1st 2 parables start with a question that highlights the foolishness of the person's choices: 'Which of you' (v28) or 'What king?' (v31). What other words in the parables indicate foolish decisions?

3. What is Jesus' main point? (v26-27 cf v18-20)

4. Why does Jesus end with v35b? (cf 8:1-15).

REFLECT

 "Jesus requires every person to renounce one hundred percent of what they have, whether it be very little or very much ... In the end, there is nothing in a disciple's life that is off-limits to Jesus." (McKinley, Luke 12-24 for you, p52) Does this mean that Christians can't have personal possessions, or should abandon their families? If not, what does it mean?

If you lived where being a Christian could cost you your life, would you still choose to follow Jesus? Read more:

- Voice of the Martyrs <u>https://vom.com.au/</u>
- Open Doors <u>https://www.opendoors.org.au/</u>
- Barnabas Fund <u>https://www.barnabasfund.org/au/pray/</u>
- Human Rights <u>https://www.hrla.org.au/</u>
- "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." (Jim Elliot) Why is following Jesus always worth it? (cf Phil 3:7-11, Heb 11:24-27)
- Jesus lays out the immense benefits of following him, but also warns people of what it will involve. How does this affect our evangelism?

PRAY

Dear Lord, Thank you that Jesus is the pearl of great price. Forgive us for the idols we treasure instead of him. Strengthen us to see the joy of following Jesus. Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR MINISTRY APPRENTICES

http://www.eac.org.au/apprentices



Moore College students

Pray for Brendan & Gloria Nelson, Tim & Liv Griffiths (Sutherland Anglican), Sam Begg (Darling Point Anglican), Sophia Choi & Jay (Strathfield Anglican), Ben & Emily Warren (Menangle Anglican).

Study 2 - Luke 15

Luke 15 contains 3 of Jesus' most memorable parables. They have even more impact when we read them in context (v1-2).

GETTING STARTED

What is the most valuable thing that you have ever lost? Did you find it? How did you feel?

READ LUKE 15:1-3

What is the context that leads Jesus to tell the 3 parables?

READ LUKE 15:4-7 (parable 1)

- 1. What stands out to you?
- 2. Why does Jesus tell this parable? (v7, cf v1-2)

3. Who is the good shepherd? (Ezek 34:2-6 cf v11-13; Jn 10:11-18).

READ LUKE 15:8-10 (parable 2)

How does this parable add to parable 1?

READ LUKE 15:11-32 (parable 3)

1. What stands out to you?

2. Who do the characters represent?

| Characters | Jesus' day | Now |
|---------------|------------|-----|
| Younger son | v1 | |
| Older brother | v2 | |
| Father | v7,10 | |

3. What is left unknown in regards to the older brother? (v32 cf v28)

4. How does this parable add to parables 1 and 2?

REFLECT

• What do the 3 parables teach about our heavenly Father? How do v7, 10, 20-24, 32 make you feel?

- What title would you give to parable 3? [Note: The titles in our Bibles are added by the publisher, with the exception of the Psalms. They are often a useful summary, but not always.]
- Thinking about God's grace towards any sinner: in what ways can we 'mutter' like the Pharisees and teachers of the law (v2), or be angry like the older brother (v28-30)?

PRAY

Dear Lord, for any "lost sons" we know, please have mercy, and give us wisdom as we seek to bring them back to the Father.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

http://www.eac.org.au/partners

Later in 2024, we will meet some new mission partners from CMS.



Kurt & Bec Langmead Lightning Ridge



S & M Middle East

Study 3 - Luke 16:1-18

On the surface, this parable seems to promote ungodliness, and is therefore considered one of Jesus' hardest parables to understand. So it's helpful to first think about the purpose, nature and interpretation of Jesus' parables.

Purpose: Jesus' parables are not "spiritual truths in simple stories that everyone can understand." Rather what is Jesus' purpose for speaking in parables? (Luke 8:9-10).

Interpretation: The main way to interpret a parable is to look at the context (**why** Jesus told the parable) and see how **he** says to interpret it. This interpretation must **fit in** with the rest of Scripture (ie "Scripture interprets Scripture.")

GETTING STARTED

Shrewd = being able to grasp a situation quickly and use it to their advantage. In what sense should Christians be shrewd?

READ LUKE 16:1-9

1. Who is the parable directed to and what more do we know about them? (v1, 14)

2. A rich man has a manager for his possessions. What is the manager like? (v1, 3, 8)

What does the manager do? (v4-7)

3. How could we over-apply this parable, and interpret it incorrectly?

READ LUKE 16:10-18

1. How does Jesus apply his parable? v8b-9

v10-12

v13 Summarise the main idea: 2. How do the Pharisees respond? (v14, cf 11:53-54, 14:1, 22:1-6)

3. How does Jesus respond? What does he reveal about their hearts?

v15

v16-18

REFLECT

- How should Christians be "shrewd" with wealth (before it's gone v9)?
- Why can't we serve 2 masters? (v13) Where are we in danger of trying to serve both God and money? Where might our blindspots be?
- Reflecting on the Law and Jesus. What has and hasn't changed with Jesus' 1st coming? (v16-18)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

Dear Father, protect our hearts from trying to serve both you and money. Help us to be shrewd with whatever wealth you give us, in light of Jesus' 2nd coming. Thankyou for the privilege of investing in gospel ministry - help us to be responsible and generous this year. Amen.

Thank God for the saints at **Engadine Morning Church**, and for so many relationships with unbelievers through midweek growth groups, kids and youth ministries, and outreach at Moran. Pray for a new person or family in Engadine to come each week to hear about Jesus.

Thank God for the saints at **Night Church**, for the many upper high schoolers, young adults and the new families and older people. Pray for great discipleship and so many leaders serving across kids, youth and adult ministries along with those in the year 13 program and MTS.

Thank God for the saints at **Heathcote Anglican Church**, and for outreach at Kids Plus and John Paul Village. Praise God for John Lee, who is now leading Heathcote Anglican (4 days/week). Pray for a new person or family in Heathcote to come each week to hear about Jesus. (After 11 years as Congregational pastor, the Dodd family are still members of Heathcote Anglican, but Michael will now focus on developing Night Church and MTS.)

Study 4 - Meet Jesus: Motivation

Our church vision statement is: "For the glory of Jesus, we **build up** each other and **reach out** to the lost, through God's word and prayer."



Reaching out to the lost is also called "outreach" or "mission" or "evangelism". The "evangel" is the "gospel" or "good news" about Jesus. So being "evangelical" means **believing** the gospel, and being "evangelistic" means **sharing** the gospel.

Evangelism [sharing the gospel] is exciting but also daunting and hard. So it can easily slip to the edges of our life and church. That's why it's good to regularly encourage and train each other in evangelism.

Over the next 4 weeks, we'll look at:

Study 4: **Motivation**. What keeps us going in evangelism? Study 5: **Barriers**. What stops us evangelising? Study 6: **Partnership with God**. What's God's role and our role in evangelism?

Study 7: **Partnership with each other.** How do we evangelise together?

Over Easter and the following weeks, we'll partner in a nation-wide mission called "Meet Jesus", including growth group led evangelism in Week 10. Read more about it: <u>meetjesus.au/</u>



Throughout the studies, most of the quotes are from Rico Tice's great little book called: *Honest Evangelism* (The Good Book Company, 2015).

GETTING STARTED

1. As a group, write a list of all the people who led you to understand the gospel.

Stop and thank God for them. Pray for their ongoing evangelism to more people.

2. What keeps us going in evangelism? Write a list of reasons.

- -
- -

- -
- -

MOTIVATION

While sometimes we may be driven by duty or guilt, our main motivation for sharing the gospel comes from the gospel message itself. Let's break it down a bit more.

| Motivation | Summarise the passage |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| God's glory | Acts 17:16-18 |
| People's future | Revelation 21:1-7 |
| | Luke 16:19-29 |
| Christ's love | 2 Cor 5:14-15 |

REFLECT

1. How do these 3 gospel motivations shape us in evangelism?

2. "We do not speak for Christ because we do not so love his name that we cannot bear to see him unacknowledged and unadorned. If only our eyes were opened to see his glory, and if only we felt wounded by the shame of his public humiliation among men, we should not be able to remain silent. Rather would we echo the apostles' words [in Acts 4:20]: "we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."" (John Stott, Our Guilty Silence, 1997).

What strikes you in this quote?

3. "When [someone] jokes about preferring hell with his friends over heaven with boring religious people — he does not know what he is doing. What he rejects is not the real heaven (nobody will be boring in heaven), and what he wants is not the real hell, but the tolerable hell of his imagination." (John Piper, https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-willingly-do-people-go-to-hell)

Reflecting on your friends who aren't believers. Do they have a view of heaven and hell?

NEXT STEPS

1. **2X2 Prayer.** A great discipline to help us be more intentional about evangelism is to begin each day spending **2 minutes praying**



for 2 people. It could be 2 people you expect to meet that day, like family members, work colleagues, neighbours, or someone at the gym. Or you could pray for 2 strangers that God will bring into your day (like an old acquaintance at the shops, or someone you've never met before). Then be ready for how God will answer your prayer!

2. In Week 10, our growth groups will be doing some evangelism together - in whatever way best fits your group, or a collection of groups. For example, you could have a coffee night with a testimony, or host a BBQ with extended family members, or do some Saturday door-knocking, or offer to help at mid-week Kids (Brodie) or Youth (Dan) or Seniors (Moran, John Paul Village). What ideas have you got?

PRAY

Dear Father, thankyou for your incredible love for us in Jesus for saving us from our deserved punishment in hell to the unimaginable joy of heaven. This week, give us gospel eyes for those around us, and enable us to have big and small opportunities to share the hope we have in Jesus. Amen

PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you. (Heb 13:17)

| Staff Team | Main focus | Family |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| James Warren | Parish Morning Church | Di; Josh, Ben & Emily, Emma |
| Michael Dodd | Night Church MTS | Christina; Luke, Audrey, Ben |
| Dan Bishop | Youth Sunday Kids | Shan; Zeke, Jed, Abbie, Mori, Kai |
| Brodie Cutmore | Mid-week Kids Morning Church | Shaz; Kingsley, Mabel, #3 |
| John Lee | Heathcote Church | Caroline; Ethan, Josh |
| Eliza McLaughlin | SRE Coordinator | Ben; Emily, Ivy, Toby, Daisy |
| Jackie Coffey | Office Manager | Pat; Kate, Ben, Jon |

Growth Group Leaders

Wardens: Barry Watson, Ian Campbell, Geoff Summers, Paul Reeves (Treasurer)

Parish Council: John Orr, Pat Coffey, Matt Miller, Erem Kidson, Jenine Lewis, Karen Robson.

Study 5 - Meet Jesus: Barriers

Evangelism is exciting and daunting and hard. So it can easily slip to the edges of our life and church. Last week, we looked at the **motivation**: what keeps us going in evangelism? This week, we look at some **barriers**: what stops us evangelising?

GETTING STARTED

"Hell is a terrible reality we desperately want people to avoid. The new creation is a wonderful place we urgently want people to enjoy. And the Lord Jesus deserves glory, and supremely we want him to be given it." (Rico Tice, p40).

Deep in our heart, Christians long for everyone to know Jesus. So what stops us evangelising?

- -
- _
- -
- -
- -
- _

READ 1 PETER 1:1-2, 9-10

Write a list of all the ways that Christians are described.

READ 1 PETER 3:13-18

What kind of reception should we expect from unbelievers?

The painline

"We're in a culture of growing hostility to Christianity. It's not just apathy we face, it's antipathy. Many people really don't like the gospel. Sometimes they express that politely, sometimes not politely at all; but they don't like it. This shouldn't really surprise us. Think how incendiary [causing a fire] much of what we believe is. We believe Jesus is the only way to know God. We believe the cross is the only way to be forgiven. We believe that one day, everyone will be judged.

So if you are going to talk to people about Jesus, you are going to get hurt. It is going to sever some relationships. It is going to provoke people. Not every time, and depending on our circumstances, friendship groups, workplaces and so on, our experiences will vary; but we will face rejection enough of the time to give us second thoughts ...

We're wired to assume that if we're getting hit, something's gone wrong. And so whenever I tell someone the gospel

message ... there's a temptation to either stop saying anything, or to change what I'm saying. I know there's a **painline** that needs to be crossed if I tell someone the gospel: but I want to stay [on] the comfortable side of the painline." (Rico Tice, p15).

1. In the quote above, underline the lines that most resonate with you. Share some with your group.

2. When have you experienced the painline?

- 3. Share ideas of when/how you have chosen to cross over it.
- 4. Why is it worth crossing the painline? (2 Pet 3:13-18)

REFLECT

1. "Anything that we serve instead of God is a created thing, an idol. Money, reputation, power, career, family, and so on - these are all good things that we can turn into "god things". Our hearts get kidnapped ... As long as Jesus is not my greatest love, I will keep quiet about him in order to serve my greatest love, my idol. I will keep quiet about him because I am afraid of losing my greatest love, my idol." (Rico Tice, p43).

Do you agree with this quote? Write a list of some of the idols that stop us evangelising. One way to find them is to ask: What do I think most about? What do I most fear losing?

2. Think of a situation this week, when you'll be tempted to not cross the painline. What's a question that you could gently ask that risks crossing the painline? Pray for each other to be courageous, and take these steps.

PRAY

Dear Lord, You deserve all glory, and we desperately want people to avoid hell and experience the new creation. Give us some gospel moments this week. Increase our courage so that we don't stay quiet, but gently and courageously cross the painline to share something about our faith. Please strengthen believers who are being persecuted for their faith. Amen.

Study 6 - Meet Jesus:

Partnership with God

Over the last 2 weeks, we've looked at **motivation** and **barriers** to evangelism. This week, we look at the privilege of **partnership with God**: What is God's role and our role in evangelism?

GETTING STARTED

1. Think of the people you're praying to come to know Jesus. What practical steps could you be taking for this to happen?

2. Think about when you came to know Jesus as your Saviour and Lord. What practical steps did others take for this to happen?

READ 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

1. Why are we tempted to lose heart in evangelism? (v3-4, cf Lk 8:1-15, Eph 6:10-20)

2. What is our role in evangelism?

v2

v5

3. What is God's role in evangelism? (v6, cf 1 Cor 3:5-9)

4. "Our job is not to convert people. It is to witness to Christ. Conversion isn't the mark of a successful witness - witnessing is. Think about a courtroom. Witnesses are there to tell the truth. That's a successful witness. If the jury does not believe them, that's not their fault or failure. You have not failed if you explain the gospel and are rejected. You have failed if you don't try." (Rico Tice, p56)

How does this understanding of 'witnessing' help us in evangelism?

5. We might think: "God doesn't need me to speak. I'll just pray his Spirit works in their heart".

How is this mistaken? (Rom 10:10-15)

How do the Spirit and Word work together? (1 Cor 2:9-10, 2 Cor 4:6-7, Acts 20:32, Eph 6:17)

REFLECT

1."God has wired you to tell others in a way that allows you to be yourself. Evangelism is not just for extroverts, brainboxes or full-timers. It is your job, and in the Lord's strength you can do it." (Rico Tice, p81)

How is our different 'God-given wiring' a gift for evangelism?

2. "It's no accident you know the people you do. It's no accident they're in your path. They need the gospel. God wants them to hear the gospel. And that transforms how I view my life. It makes it really exciting. If I'm sitting on a train and there's someone opposite me, God has put them there. He's not far from them, because I know him and I'm sitting opposite them. Now that transforms whether I'll bother to try to start a conversation with them. It'll transform what I aim to talk about with them. And it'll transform how I pray for my day ahead; I'll be praying for energy and love to make the most of every divine appointment God has already written into my schedule." (Rico Tice, p50)

Do you find God's sovereignty exciting? (Acts 17:24-27) Why?

What answers have you seen to your 2X2 prayers? (Study 4)

What happened when you took those little steps across the painline? (Study 4)

When you meet someone new, what are some good gospel conversation starters?

PRAY

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Cor 5:20-21)

Dear Lord, thankyou for the immense privilege of being ambassadors for Christ - beautiful feet throughout the world. Help us to faithfully plant and water, and trust you for the growth. Guard us from retreating to silence or resorting to deception. May we set forth your gospel plainly. Amen.

Study 7 - Meet Jesus:

Partnership with each other

Over the last 3 weeks, we've looked at **motivation** and **barriers** to evangelism, and our **partnership with God**. Now we look at our **partnership with each other:** how do we evangelise together?

GETTING STARTED

When you hear the word 'evangelism', do you mostly think about **your** responsibility (individually) or **our** responsibility (corporately as a church)?

'It's not only the **individual** Christian believer who is to let their light shine, a narrow beam of torchlight in the world; each **local church** is to be a lighthouse—a great, wide beam of gospel light illuminating the surrounding darkness.' (Rico Tice, p83)

READ PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30

What is Paul's desire for the Philippian church?

READ COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

What do we learn about evangelism and partnership?

READ 1 THESSALONIANS 1:4-10

What do we learn about evangelism and partnership?

REFLECT

1. In the current season the Lord has placed you, how can you prioritise evangelism?

2. God has placed us in various networks of relationships. (eg church links, school communities, our street, gym or sporting teams, or your favourite coffee shop). What practical ways can we partner with each other in the task of evangelism? How can we connect our unbelieving friends with our christian friends?

3. People are often more willing to say yes to an invite, than we are to invite. Which person(s) could you invite to read the bible or invite to church this Easter?

4. When a friend comes to church for the first time, it's so wonderful when a christian friend comes over to say hi. Share ideas on how best to welcome someone into the church community.

PRAY

Dear Father, what a joy it is to evangelise together. Help us to actively pray for and encourage one another in our personal evangelism, and work out new ways to evangelise together. Amen.

PRAYER for evangelism together

Growth groups Sundays Mid-week Kids Youth Seniors (Moran, John Paul Village) Networks

•••

Study 8 - Easter Reflection John 18-21

In this week's growth group, we're going to prepare for Easter, by reading the end of John's Gospel, and then praying together. It's a wonderful but very moving read - choose the length of text to read that best suits your group.

It may be a good week to also have a meal together. You might also like to find a song which captures the joy of Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter, and sing it (or listen to it) together.

See the Leaders' page for some ideas: <u>eac.org.au/-luke-series-</u> 2024-t1-guide-for-leaders

Study 9 - Meet Jesus: Planning & Prayer

In Week 10, our growth groups will be doing some evangelism together. For example, you could have a coffee night with a testimony, or host a BBQ with extended family members, or do some Saturday door-knocking, or offer to help at mid-week Kids (Brodie) or Youth (Dan) or Seniors (Moran, John Paul Village).

PRAY

For each other's friends and family members who don't know Jesus yet.

For wisdom and courage to utilise upcoming opportunities.

MEET JESUS

For believers, seekers and sceptics.

29/3 GOOD FRIDAY

Jesus died - so what? What difference does Jesus' death make?

31/3 EASTER SUNDAY

Is God real? How can you know for certain? Where's the proof?

7/4 Does God really care? Grief. Pain. Death. If I were God, I wouldn't do it like this.

14/4 Why is life so hard? Busy? Tired? Stressed? Is there any other way?

21/4 What's the point of anything?

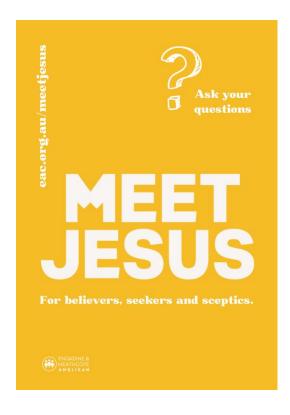
Do the things you care about actually matter? How long will they last?

28/4 What do you want?

Everyone chases after something. Will the things you long for be enough?



Our group's prayer list



The Gospel of Luke & Meet Jesus