

## **“THE REALLY GOOD LIFE”**

### ***(Life of Christ Series)***

#### **The Gospel of Luke**

### **The Discipleship of Jesus**

Jesus' public ministry began at age 30 when He was baptized (*Luke 3:21-22*). Following His wilderness temptation victory (*4:1-13*), Jesus began the Great Galilean Ministry with the first four disciples (*Luke 4-5*) and the calling of the fifth disciple, Matthew (*5:27-28*).

During this early part of the Galilean ministry, Jesus taught the crowds the 'Sermon on the Mount' to explain the Kingdom of God He was offering (*Matthew 5-7*). As opposition from the religious establishment continued to build (*Luke 6:1-11*), the Lord called the rest of the twelve disciples and recognized them publicly (*Luke 6:12-16*). He also described what He was calling them to do and what to expect as His disciples (*Matthew 10:5-42*). Following this 'ordination' service, Jesus healed the people there to show what He can do in and through dedicated disciples (*6:17-19*).

Later that day Christ met with the 12 and other disciples following Him in the house where they were staying in Capernaum (*Mark 3:19*) and reviewed specifics of the ministry to which He had called them (*Luke 6:20-49*). After that Jesus shows the 12 what ministry is supposed to be about-meeting needs, touching lives, and building faith in other disciples' hearts and minds (*Luke 7*). As in the life of Jesus, God, the Father, is revealed through the teaching and ministry of disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## **‘CHRIST REVEALS GOD, THE FATHER’**

### ***(Jesus' Example for Disciples)***

#### **Lessons from Luke 7**

## **GOD, THE FATHER, LOVES TO SEE FAITH**

### ***(The healing of the Centurion's servant)***

*Now when He concluded all His sayings in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum. <sup>2</sup>And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. <sup>3</sup>So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant. <sup>4</sup>And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving, <sup>5</sup>“for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue.” <sup>6</sup>Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, “Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof. <sup>7</sup>Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>8</sup>For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” <sup>9</sup>When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him, “I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!” <sup>10</sup>And those who were sent, returning to the house, found the servant well who had been sick. *Luke 7:1-10/ Matthew 8:5-13**

## **GOD, THE FATHER, LOVES TO MEET NEEDS**

### ***(The resurrection of a widow's son)***

*<sup>11</sup>Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. <sup>12</sup>And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. <sup>13</sup>When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” <sup>14</sup>Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” <sup>15</sup>So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. <sup>16</sup>Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us” and, “God has visited His people.”*

*Luke 7:11-16*

## **GOD, THE FATHER, LOVES TO ENCOURAGE**

(The revival of John the Baptist)

<sup>17</sup> And this report about Him went throughout all Judea and all the surrounding region. <sup>18</sup> Then the disciples of John reported to him concerning all these things. <sup>19</sup> And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" <sup>20</sup> When the men had come to Him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, 'Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?'" <sup>21</sup> And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight. <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. <sup>23</sup> And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me."

<sup>24</sup> When the messengers of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup> But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings' courts. <sup>26</sup> But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup> This is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' <sup>28</sup> For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

<sup>29</sup> And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. <sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him. <sup>31</sup> And the Lord said, "To what then shall I liken the men of this generation, and what are they like? <sup>32</sup> They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, saying: 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we mourned to you, and you did not weep.' <sup>33</sup> For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' <sup>34</sup> The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'" <sup>35</sup> But wisdom is justified by all her children."  
Luke 7:17-35/ Matthew 11:2-19

## **GOD, THE FATHER, LOVES WORSHIP OF HIS SON**

(The sinner woman who worshiped Jesus)

Luke 7:36-50

<sup>36</sup> Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. <sup>37</sup> And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, <sup>38</sup> and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. <sup>39</sup> Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." <sup>40</sup> And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." <sup>41</sup> "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup> And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" <sup>43</sup> Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged."

<sup>44</sup> Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. <sup>45</sup> You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. <sup>46</sup> You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. <sup>47</sup> Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." <sup>48</sup> Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." <sup>49</sup> And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" <sup>50</sup> Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."