

LUKE I A Glimpse into the Heart of Jesus Luke 4:38-44

Introduction:

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1. Luke shares with us a day in the life of Jesus...
 2. It is here that we see a glimpse into the heart of Jesus...
 3. And we see A Heart of Compassion, of Reflection and of Mission
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I. COMPASSION (v.38–41)

A. JESUS DID NOT NEED A CROWD TO PREFORM A MIRACLE (v.38–39)

1. **Jesus had just been preaching in the Synagogue...**
 - a) And a man possessed by an unclean demon was there so Jesus cast it out
2. **But after the service they go to Peter's house...**
 - a) Peter's Mother-in-law was sick and suffering with a high fever
 - b) She is too sick to even get out of bed or ask Jesus for help herself
3. **Have You Ever Had a High Fever?**
 - a) Cold Sweats and Chills... Headache... your body is fighting an unknown enemy
4. **The family asks Jesus for help... and Jesus does not hesitate...**
 - a) He Stands Over Her and Rebukes the Fever and it immediately left her!
5. **And She Immediately Begins Serving them!**
 - a) I know this is exactly what My Mother-in-Law would do as well!
 - b) "Can I make you something to eat?" ..."Can I Get You Anything?"
6. **Jesus Miracles were Instantaneous and Complete**
 - a) She Didn't Need Time to Regain Her Composure or Strength...
 - b) She Was Healed and Healthy!

B. JESUS WAS ALWAYS READY TO SERVE (v.40–41)

1. **Huge Crowds Are gathered outside Peter's house...**

bringing all their sick with all different kinds of diseases...

 - a) He Laid His Hand on Each One and Healed Them!
 - b) It Didn't matter what the sickness or disease was! They Were Healed!
 - c) Even Those Oppressed by Demons were Set Free!
2. **The Compassion of Christ is so evident everywhere He went...**

¹⁴ And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. (Mathew 14:14)

³⁶ But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd." (Matt. 9:36)

3. **He Didn't Need a Crowd to Preform a Miracle—only a Person in Need!**
 - a) Jesus helped a young married couple out of an embarrassing situation by turning water into wine—even though it was not yet time for His mission...
And He Let the Grooms Family Take the Credit!

- b) Jesus Even Healed people and told them not to tell anyone...
because it was too soon and would hinder the mission.
- c) Jesus even healed people when doing so could make their lives harder...
 - (1) like the blind man who received sight—but they wanted to destroy his reputation
 - (2) Raising Lazarus from the dead—even though they wanted to kill him later!

C. PLEASE DON'T EVER FORGET THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST...

1. **He Wants You to be Saved! He Wants You to Make it to Heaven!**
2. **He Wants to Forgive You, to Help You, To Heal Your Broken Heart...**
3. **To Give You Sight, to Set You Free, To Give You Peace (Matthew 11:28-29)**

II. REFLECTION (v.42)

A. JESUS SOUGHT EARLY MORNING SOLITUDE AND REFLECTION

1. **Jesus knew the value of solitude and Reflection with God the Father.**
 - a) Jesus went out Before First Light for Prayer... (Mark 1:35)
2. **He regularly sought silence & Solitude, for prayer & reflection (Luke 6:12)**
 - a) Jesus even Spent 40 days and nights in the Wilderness in Prayer and Fasting!
3. **The busier Jesus was, the more it seems He Sought Solitude (Lk 5:15-16)**

B. C.S. Lewis Calls it: 'Dissent from the Kingdom of Noise.'

—HERE ARE 4 WAYS THE CONSTANT NOISE LIMITS OUR LIVES...

1. **Noise Limits Our Ability to Think...**
 - a) We Are Being Water-Boarded with Information...
 - b) External Noise Also Creates Internal Noise... Cognitive Dissonance, stress
 - c) Why Would God Say: Be Still and Know that He is God? (Psalm 46:10)
 - d) Because You Must First Be Still... Then You Can Know God is in Control
2. **Noise Limits Our Ability to Cultivate our Relationships...**
 - a) When we don't Allow Time for Reflection, we can't clear our minds of everything we are wrestling with...
 - b) so when we sit down with the family for dinner, we can't even hear what people are saying because our mind is somewhere else.
 - c) So We Are Distracted and Distant and it's usually taken the wrong way
3. **Noise Limits Our Ability to Be at Peace —> 3 things happened in 2007...**
 - a) **FIRST:** The iPhone was released creating a new era of smart phones that provided massive amounts of information available at anytime, at our fingertips...
 - b) **SECOND:** Americans started a 10 year / 59 percent decrease in productivity compared to the previous decade.
 - c) **THIRD:** A Sudden Increase of Anxiety and other Mental Health Issues, especially among teenagers.

A professor at San Diego State, Dr. Jean Twente, has been studying psychological trends in young people for the last 25 years. Around 2012, Twente noticed a dramatic shift in the

mental health patterns of kids born between 1995 and 2012, a generation she calls iGen. Among this generation, “rates of teen depression and suicide have skyrocketed.” The spike in anxiety corresponded to “exactly the moment when the proportion of Americans who owned a smart phone surpassed 50%.

But it’s not just Young people—24/7 access to social media & news affects adults as well.

TIME Magazine: “More than half of Americans say the news causes them stress, and many report feeling anxiety, fatigue or sleep loss as a result... Yet 1 in 10 adults checks the news every hour, and fully 20% of Americans report “constantly” monitoring their Social Media feeds—which often exposes them to the latest news headlines, whether they like it or not.” (Time Magazine, May, 19, 2020)¹

And We Haven’t Even Talked About Daily TV — Constant Entertainment, Crime Documentaries etc.
[Not just to bash cell phones b/c they also save lives—Ex. Mark Forester life-flighted by helicopter]

4. Noise Limits Our Ability to Hear the Word of God...

- a) “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17)
- b) But When Our Minds Are Full of Noise, We Can’t Concentrate on God’s Word...
—This is What Jesus Describes (Mark 4:18–19)
- c) **To the Point There is no room for God!** Psalm 10:4 NIV “In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.”

C. WE NEED TIME ALONE WITH GOD

1. God did not just create our minds just for taking in information—but also for Processing it properly with wisdom and reflection...

- a) Otherwise We Lack Proper Understanding & Mis-Understand the world around us
- b) EX: Notice when Some of God’s People Did Not Understand Why they were Experiencing Hardship... (Malachi 3:13–15)
- c) Notice What God Did (Malachi 3:16) Book of Remembrance was written in Heaven
- d) **Who is in this book?** 1) those who fear the Lord 2) And who meditate on His name.

2. David Meditated on God and His Word... (Psalm 63:6-7)

- a) When we think of meditation, we think of Eastern Meditation: Emptying our mind
- b) Biblical Meditation is Not Emptying the Mind but **filling** the Mind with God’s word.

3. Taking Time to Be Still and Know God is in Control (Psalm 46:10)

- a) Casting All Your Anxieties on Him in Prayer because He Cares for You!
- b) Finding Rest and Peace that can only be found in Him (John 14:27)

This is why we need Quiet Time Alone with God and His Word

III. MISSION (v.43–44)

A. NO ONE IN ISRAEL HAD MORE DEMANDS ON THEIR TIME...

1. Just in this one Day Jesus attended worship, Then cast out a demon...
2. Healed Peter’s Mother-in-law, then crowds of people outside Peters house
3. But it was Never Enough to Meet Everyone’s Expectations...

¹ Jordon Raynor, Redeeming Your Time, p.60

B. THEY WANTED TO CHANGE THE MISSION OF JESUS FOR THEMSELVES

1. They Wanted to Keep Jesus For themselves... WHY?

- a) So Jesus would Stay and Fix their Problems and Meet their Needs...
- b) Jesus Knew the Mission was Much Bigger and More Important...

2. Many Have Tried to Change the Mission of the Kingdom of God...

But Only Jesus Has All Authority and Only He is the Head of the Church

- a) But it Still Happens... Over Time... What the Military Calls: **MISSION CREEP**
- b) You End up with All Kinds of Churches and All Kinds of Problems...
- c) The Church Becomes a Political Action Committee... or Recreational Committee...
or a Soup Kitchen... or a Business... or a Power Structure Hierarchy...

C. JESUS KNEW HE MUST STAY FOCUSED ON THE MISSION

1. The Work He Was Doing Was Critically Important

2. The People Wanted Him to Stay...

But the Preaching of the Kingdom Needed to Continue

3. Not Only Did Jesus Continue Preaching—He Went to the Cross to Purchase the Church with His Blood...

D. SO WHAT THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH TODAY?

The mission of the Church is Revealed in the New Testament

- 1. WORSHIP (1 Peter 2:9; Heb. 10:25)**
- 2. EVANGELISM (Mt 28:18-20)**
- 3. EDIFICATION (Rom 14:19; 1 Cor. 14:12; 1 Thes. 5:11)**
- 4. BENEVOLENCE (Rom 12:13; Heb 13:16; 1 Cor. 16:1-2)**

Whatever your Gift or Talent is—you can put it to work in at least 1 of these areas...

CONCLUSION:

- 1. We See in Jesus a Heart of Compassion, of Reflection and of Mission**
- 2. Let us Re-focus Our Hearts... to Have a Heart of Compassion, of Reflection and of the Mission**

3. Think of Climbing a Great Mountain... there are 3 types of people...

- 1. There are the **Climbers**, who stay focused on the goal and keep moving forward
- 2. There are the **Quitters**, who find a reason to quit and stop trying
- 3. There are the **Campers**, who decide they are more comfortable staying in Camp.

Now the Climbers have to camp along the way... but they break camp to keep climbing forward
Campers have changed the Mission—the Mission is Not to Reach the Peak but to stay Comfortable

4. The Goal is High and the Climbing is Hard—But Don't Give Up!

(Malachi 3:16–17)