

God's Story Our Story

January 15, 2017



Sermon at Nazareth

Devotion: Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone or with others; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Lord God,

You have fulfilled your word in the person of Jesus, your son. Gather us into your adopted family that his proclamation might be ours as well. In the name of Christ, Amen.

Reflect: Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading.

And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown."
Luke 4:24

Study: Study the reading and consider the background.

The boy from Nazareth has made good for himself, and now Jesus makes a rousing return to his childhood temple. But is his shocking brand of prophecy too much for the hometown crowd to handle? Joseph's son is about to find out.

Consider: Consider this theme for the week's text.

Prophetic words can be hard to hear.

Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday: *Sermon at Nazareth*, Luke 4:14-30

Monday: *Jesus Casts Out an Unclean Spirit*, Luke 4:31-37

Tuesday: *Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-Law*, Luke 4:38-39

Wednesday: *Jesus Heals and Casts Out Demons*, Luke 4:40-44

Thursday: *The Spirit of the Lord*, Isaiah 61:1-3

Friday: *Elijah Helps a Widow*, 1 Kings 17:8-16

Saturday: *Elisha Heals Naaman*, 2 Kings 5:1-14

How does Jesus' ministry begin?

Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Who are the outcasts in your community? How might you welcome and serve them?

When have you felt pressure to speak harsh or prophetic words to people you are close to? How were your words received? What, if anything, might you do differently the next time?

Do: By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

View or read your regular news source throughout the week. Pay attention to the voices. Whose voice is speaking? Whose voice is being silenced?

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

Speak your voice. Speak the voices of others. God hears you. Amen.