

For the week of July 10, 2016
Pastor: Steve Zeisler

Proclaim Good News to the Poor

First week in the series "Stories of Welcome in the Gospel of Luke."

We begin our summer series on portraits of Jesus found in the Gospel of Luke first by considering why Luke chose to write his account of Jesus' life. Luke describes a dramatic portrait: Jesus unveiling himself as Israel's Messiah and the world's Savior to a gathering of Sabbath worshippers who would not hear or believe him. This challenge also reaches forward to us – do we have 'ears to hear' the world-shaking claims of Jesus? How do we tell the story of Jesus ourselves?

Discussion Questions:

1. Luke was a Gentile convert to Christianity – a man who was once cut off from God's people and His promises. Luke's gospel was written to persuade another outsider, a Roman official named Theophilus. How does recalling our own journey from darkness to light inform the way we speak about Jesus?
2. Can you identify an 'interested unbeliever' in your circle of friends whom you can approach with good news about the Savior?
3. Luke focuses on Jesus' welcome of men and women who are broken, poor and 'unworthy'. What should we learn from this?
4. In spiritual terms blindness, deafness, bondage, etc. are evidence of a hard heart not unfortunate circumstances. What have you learned about having your eyes and ears opened to truth?