

# Message Cheat Sheet

MAY 25, 2025

Get more out of the message



## LUKE

### Luke 9:1-17

How can we become the Christ-centered church our world so desperately needs? Join us in Luke's Gospel, the most expansive biography of Jesus in the Bible. With the beloved physician as our guide, we hope to experience Jesus so we can participate with the new reality God is bringing into our world.

**WATCH:** [YouTube](#) or [Website](#)

## The Big Idea

Jesus is the King who provides abundantly, which makes us a people of abundance.

## Good to Know

### What's this passage all about?

Jesus only did one miracle that was so significant that every gospel writer included it in their accounts—the feeding of the 5,000 in the wilderness. But why at this point in the narrative? As you read the passage in context, you notice first that this is not Jesus doing a random trick with fish sandwiches. He is demonstrating what His Kingdom is all about. Luke's mention of Herod is strange until you realize he's setting Jesus side by side with Herod. What do you notice about these two kings? What does that tell you about belonging to Jesus' Kingdom? It tells you that Jesus is the promised king who would rule not through power plays and war, but by miraculously providing for His people.

### Why does this matter?

The reason behind every war, whether between nations squabbling over land, competing managers vying for a promotion or couples arguing about whose turn it is to take out the trash is a belief that we live in a zero-sum world.

Jesus does not seem to be interested in playing that game. He is a real king, but He does not threaten the kingdoms of this world. Instead, He does what God's people had been looking forward to since Isaiah penned Isaiah 25. He is the king who provides. His people are not to reflect that worried, warring culture of the world. We are to be a people of God's abundance, generosity and peace.

## Good to Know

### "power and authority" (vs. 1)

This is the world's first short-term mission trip! In a world before social media and cable news, the only way people were going to hear about Jesus was through His deputized representatives.

### "sent them out" (vs. 1)

This is literally the Greek verb "apostled (send out)." In other words, Jesus "sent out" His "sent ones."

### **Take nothing for your journey...(vs. 3-4)**

There were lots of religious missionaries in Jesus' day. They would go door to door, peddling some new philosophy and ask for donations for their money bag. Jesus was saying, "Don't be like them. Pack light. If someone agrees to hear you out, hang out with them, but don't ask for anything. Instead, share with them my healing power and the hope of the gospel."

### **"Shake the dust off your feet" (vs. 5)**

When Jewish rabbis would cross into their homeland, they would shake off the unclean dust of the gentile country from their sandals. Jesus was saying, "When Jewish people (who should know better) blow you off, treat them like outsiders. Don't take it personally. Let God deal with them."

### **Herod the tetrarch (vs. 7)**

This wasn't Herod the Great who was king when Jesus was born. This was Herod Antipas, one of his three sons—not a good dude. Mark gives us the fuller story of how this Herod stupidly locked himself into a corner where he had to decapitate John the Baptist because he made a dumb promise while drunk at his birthday party (see Mark 6).

### **"He was perplexed" (vs. 7)**

News had gotten to Herod that someone was out in the wilderness conjuring healing miracles and telling everyone that God was taking over as king. Who was this? It sounded like something John the Baptist would say, but it couldn't have been. "Perplexed" means Herod was literally at a loss.

### **"withdrew apart to a town called 'Bethsaida'" (vs. 10)**

Bethsaida was a tiny mountaintop area north of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus probably took His disciples there because it would have made for a quiet retreat away from the crowds, but it's also significant because this would have been outside of Herod Antipas's jurisdiction, allowing Jesus to allude his watchful eye.

### **"Send the crowd away" (vs. 12)**

Imagine a pop-up Woodstock festival in the middle of nowhere. A crowd that large would have had to disperse because the surrounding villages were tiny and none of them would have been able to provide food and lodging for so many.

### **"he broke the loaves" (vs. 16)**

Luke seems to be making a deliberate connection to when Jesus broke the bread at the Last Supper (see Luke 22:19).

## **Group Guide**

### **Following the series with your group?**

- Start with some [icebreaker questions](#).
- Read the passage together before you dive in.
- Share any insights from the message. Use the questions below to get your conversation started.

## **Conversation Starters**

1. What's the last amazing meal you ate?
2. Why do you think Jesus tells them to take "nothing for the journey"? What might He be teaching them about provision and dependence?
3. Compare King Jesus with King Herod. What does Luke help us notice about their mindsets?

4. How does the feeding of the 5,000 challenge our assumptions about what is possible with limited resources because of Jesus?
5. What do the facts that Jesus sent out His disciples to speak for Him and that He told them to give the crowd food tell you about Jesus' leadership style?
6. Read Isaiah 25:6-9. How does the feeding of the 5,000 give us a small taste of the great Messianic feast that's coming?
7. Jesus would again break bread during the last supper in Luke 22:19. Let this stir up your affection for Jesus. If appropriate, share communion together and give thanks to God who gave Himself to save and nourish us.

## Prayer

Jesus, you are the feast provider. Forgive us where we are anxious and worrying. Satisfy us where we are hungry and longing. Move us to open-handed generosity where we are hoarding. Thank you that you have invited beggars like us to the King's table, Amen!

### Looking for more prayer opportunities?

Click [here](#) to be notified about ongoing DCC prayer needs.

Click [here](#) to send in a prayer request.