

Sermon Title: The Story Continues- One Story, One Mission

Sermon Scripture: Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-8



## **Sermon Discussion Guide (7/26)**

***\*There will be no discussion guide for Sundays (8/02)-(9/27) due to the Luke-Acts sermon series. You are encouraged to read a chapter of Luke-Acts each day, beginning Monday, July 27th and to reflect on what you have read using either the Luke-Acts Teaching Outlines or Luke-Acts Personal Reading Guide, both found under the "resources" tab at [cantonfmc.org](http://cantonfmc.org)***

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

### **Scripture**

Read Luke 1:1-4 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

### **Observation**

How do these first four verses of the Gospel of Luke compare to a news report or account that you may read in a historical textbook? Why do you think this is?

According to verse 4, what is the purpose of Luke writing this account? How does this purpose help us understand one of the roles Scripture serves in the lives of Christians?

Read Luke 4:16-21. What do these verses, particularly verses 18-19, reveal to us about what Jesus has come to do? Why would Jesus be one that people want to follow?

Read Acts 1:1-8. What is the significance of the book of Acts being written specifically as a follow up to the book of Luke? How does Acts 1:8 show that the works of Jesus through the church are not yet finished?

## **Application**

I am part of God's story. Do you typically wake up in the morning and see yourself as being a part of God's story? Why or why not? What makes it hard for you to see yourself as being a part of God's story?

Scripture teaches us what is true and trustworthy. In your own words, what does it mean to "trust" in something? If someone who didn't know your beliefs saw the way you lived your life, would they say that you trusted in the truth of who God is, as revealed in Scripture? Why or why not?

What is your reaction to knowing that God didn't have to use humans to accomplish His mission and purposes, rather He freely chooses to use us? What might change about your life if you knew that God wants to use you to accomplish His purposes in the world?

As a part of this journey through Luke-Acts, you are invited to read one chapter of Luke or Acts each day, Monday-Saturday. (Go to the resources tab on the church website to see the personal reading guide). Make a plan for the specific time/place you will read and reflect on the daily chapter of Luke or Acts and share your plan with your group. Is there any way that your small group can encourage you, support you, or hold you accountable to this reading? Is there anyone (a neighbor, co-worker, friend) who God is calling you to invite to join you in this daily reading? If so, make a plan this week to invite this person to join you.

## **Prayer**

God, we thank You that you give to us a story we can trust, a Savior we can follow, and a mission we can join. As we open Your Word to read the story of Jesus and the Church, we ask that You would reveal to us our part in the story. Give us hearts that desire to join You in Your mission and grant us the courage and the strength to go wherever You call us. Transform our hearts so that we may be like those first disciples and leave everything else behind in pursuit of following You. Amen.