

Facing Human Sickness Chris Calvert, Executive Pastor December 9, 2012

Lesson Aim: To learn more about the reality and implications of Jesus' authority over sickness.

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your personal study time and/or discussion.

- Icebreaker: Have you ever stayed in line all night to get something (examples: a concert ticket, a Black Friday sale, etc.)? If so, what was it?
  - 1. **READ Luke 4:38-41.** What stands out to you most about what Jesus does in this story? Why?
  - 2. In the teaching Sunday, Pastor Chris spent some time focusing on the authority Jesus has over everything, including human sickness. Have you ever personally experienced Jesus' healing power over sickness? How?
  - 3. **READ Luke 4:42-44.** After the kind of day Jesus had, why do you think He found it necessary to take time to be alone? How might this have helped prepare Him for His encounter with the crowds and what He had to say to them?
  - 4. Is there anything you are challenged to apply to your own life from Jesus' example in verses 42-44?
  - 5. From the perspective of the villagers from Capernaum, the hardest thing about Jesus leaving would be that several of them were not healed. How do you think this made them feel?
  - 6. How do you feel when you or someone you know is not healed even though there is much prayer?
  - 7. If you have ever been through a situation like this, are you able to look back and see some things that God might have been trying to teach you or show you? (If you are currently going through a situation like this, put the question in the present tense.)
  - 8. **READ 2 Corinthians 12:1-10.** In these verses, the Apostle Paul talks about a supernatural experience God privileged him to have, and also the painful "thorn in his flesh" that God chose not to remove. What are some of the reasons Paul gives for God allowing this pain in his life to continue?
  - 9. How do you feel about God's promise in verse 9?
  - 10. As a result of this teaching and study, can you identify at least one area in life where Jesus is asking you to trust Him more?

## Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups**! Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the "Resources" link.



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Luke 4:38-42

The Jesus Story in Luke:

- Is a witnessed and documented historical record.
- Is a documentary of God's plan to save people.

When you are facing sickness:

## 1. <u>Understand</u> that God can heal <u>immediately</u> and <u>completely</u>.

Principle: Jesus has full authority over everything, including human sickness. (vs. 38-39)

Takeaways: 1. <u>Rekindle</u> your belief in <u>miracles</u>.

2. <u>Boldly</u> ask God for healing from <u>your</u> illness.

## 2. <u>Remember</u> that God <u>cares</u> <u>deeply</u> when you are sick and hurting.

Principle: Jesus first response to sick people is sympathy and compassion. (vs. 40-41)

Takeaways: 1. <u>Whatever</u> you are going through, Jesus <u>understands</u>.

2. You are not going through sickness alone.

## 3. <u>Trust</u> that God knows <u>what He is doing</u> with our sickness.

Principle: Jesus always does what's best for us and for His purposes. (vs. 42-44)

Takeaways: 1. Telling people the <u>Gospel</u> is even more <u>important</u> than physical healing.

- 2. Physical Healing is always temporary, while spiritual healing is eternal.
- 3. Trust God to know what's best.