

## Stafford Methodist Circuit

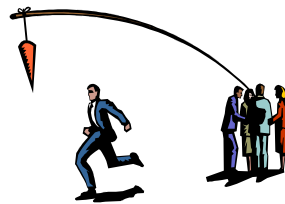
A special children's copy of Luke will be available for all the children in your church - perhaps you could even give them to those who come to clubs at the church. This translation is the New Century version and has been translated with primary school children in mind. It would be good to use these in Sunday clubs but do make sure they can find Luke in a full bible. Give the children a folder to keep all their colourings and worksheets from Luke in so that in at the end of March they can look back on what they have learnt. Up to you whether you keep this at church or home... Stickers are available to give out each week these are the same as the pictures with each theme

Overall aims for the study of Luke's Gospel

1. To realise that Luke is another of the four gospels that tell of Jesus time on earth
2. To be able to find it in the bible
3. To know who Luke was and that he also wrote the book of Acts

Luke was a doctor and is thought to have been a gentile (Colossians verse 14 and contrast with v11) He travelled with Saint Paul (Philemon verse 24 and 2 Timothy 4 verse 11)

4. To learn the focus verses these may sometimes run over more than one week.



**January 1<sup>st</sup> A testing time Luke 4 1-15**

**Focus verse: 2 Timothy 3 v16 All scripture is given by God and is useful for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching us how to live correctly.**

### **Teaching points**

Jesus was tested about what he would depend on to live -food or scripture?

Whether he would take power, riches and fame above worshipping God

Whether he would put God to the test and prove scripture right

Once he had resisted this temptation he began to teach in the synagogue and news about him spread quickly

On each of them he used what he knew in Scripture to resist temptation

### **Activities**

Hot potato game

Bible Verse Calendars

A very nice looking cake that is present the whole time but cannot be eaten

Big Bible Storybook Jesus in the Desert suitable for reading to under 5s

Jesus storybook pages 208/9 in addition to reading from the Luke's gospel for 6-11s

[http://www.sermons4kids.com/temptation\\_of\\_jesus\\_wordshape.htm](http://www.sermons4kids.com/temptation_of_jesus_wordshape.htm)

**A modern day parable** A patient runs in with a large hook stuck in his mouth. He can't talk, only mumble hysterically. The three doctors try all kinds of weird things to remove the hook. For example. They try pulling, pushing, sawing with a large saw, they try to decorate it so it is not so noticeable, etc. They finally remove the hook and ask the patient why he was trying to eat a hook. He explains that he was at the pond and saw a fishing pole sitting there with a delicious piece of chocolate cake attached to it. He just couldn't resist taking just a nibble, but it was so good he couldn't see it going to waste on a smelly old fish so he kept eating and before he knew it he had been snagged by the hook.

## GAMES

**Tug of war.** Select volunteers to participate in tug of war battles. It is easy to illustrate temptation with this game and kids almost always enjoy tug of war. Place one person in the middle of the rope. Then fill both sides with kids to pull. Explain that one team represents a particular sin and the other represents what God wants desires. Allow the kids to begin pulling to demonstrate how Satan pulls at our hearts trying to get us to do things that are wrong. If you want to demonstrate further that if we have God on our side you can then allow a strong adult to help out on the team that represents good.

**Temptation tag:** Allow one of your leaders to be a dentist. He stands in the middle and cannot move his feet, but can bend and reach. The children must try to get as close as possible and grab a piece of candy from the floor around his feet. The leader tries to tag the children before they can reach the candy. If a child is tagged they must sit down. When everyone has been tagged have the kids return to their seats. Explain to the kids that flirting with temptation is dangerous. We may get away with it once in a while (like getting a piece of candy without being tagged), but eventually you are going to get caught. We need to stay as far away from sin as possible.

### January 8<sup>th</sup> Nazareth and Capernaum

**Focus verse: 2 Timothy 3 v16 All scripture is given by and is useful for showing people what is wrong in their is useful for correcting faults and teaching us how to live correctly.**



**God lives. It**

### **Teaching points**

Once again Jesus is referring to scripture as he quotes from Isaiah 61

Different reactions to Jesus from fury to amazement

From wanting to be rid of him to trying to prevent him going elsewhere to share the good news

We need to help the children think what is the Good News that Jesus was bringing and consider which place they are in .Nazareth where he is rejected or Capernaum where he is accepted but an attempt is made to keep the good news to themselves.

For many children this may be the first week of the series that they experience .We need to link the writing of Luke's gospel to an attempt to share the good news. Unlike

many adults in the church they will all have friends who do not go to church and may not have heard the Good News.

Children who have been following the Scripture Union material will have heard recently about both Elisha in Sidon and Naaman.

### Activities

For younger children - Big bible Story book page 134 and 138

1. Have a good news circle where the children each share a bit of good news!!
2. Make a scroll older children can look up Isaiah 61 looking up where Jesus is quoting from and write some of it on the scroll

Younger ones could draw a picture of Jesus healing Peter's mother in law

Older ones might like to find out about the Year of the Lords favour and discuss what it means in relation to what Jesus did in Capernaum and throughout his ministry

3 Questions to think about:-

Ask the children what did Jesus say he had come to do in verses 18 and 19

What does it mean to anoint someone?

What is good news?

What sort of people are prisoners?

What did he mean when he said that blind people would see?

What does oppressed mean?

What is the year of the Lord's favour? Look up Year of jubilee as found in Leviticus 25 8 -17 when debts were cancelled and people forgiven!!

What did Jesus go on and do in Capernaum?

4. Worksheet- Nazareth to Capernaum

5. Learn memory verse 2 Timothy 3 verse 16 Do this by playing a version of Kim's game Put all the words on a tray but attach some of them to things eg scripture – a scroll

useful - a duster

God a cross

People a person shape

Wrong an x

Correcting a red pen

Faults a broken or cracked plate or mug

Useful a washing up brush

Teaching a school bag or abc cards or similar

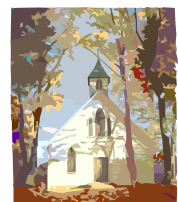
Read the verse together from the tray then ask them to look again but before they do remove one or more of the labelled items and see if they can still say the verse .

Give the children the memory verse word search or a card with the verse on to take home

Pray for others that need the good News this could be done by passing a bible round the circle and getting the children to say the name of a friend or relative that doesn't come to church (or think it!!) whilst holding the bible

**January 15<sup>th</sup> Challenging custom choosing disciples Luke 6 1-16**

**Focus Verse John 15 verse 16 You did not choose me I chose you .**



It was not just in relation to Sabbath laws that Jesus challenged custom –it was also the case that most students chose their rabbi rather than the other way round!! As we look at these passages we need to ask ourselves which of our customs God is challenging. You can choose to concentrate on either of these stories with younger children

Big bible Story book page 136 and 147

Jesus Storybook bible page 212

Beginners Bible page 316

### **Activities**

As a starter activity you could get older children to make a list of church customs!!

His followers picked ears of corn

1. Questions to ask:-What were the Pharisees really worried about?

Was Jesus a rebel?

What do you think the Pharisees thought of Jesus' choice of disciples?!

Are there things we do that Jesus might challenge?

Are there people who we might not choose to be Christians?

Investigate what people were supposed to do on the Sabbath -Exodus 20 ten commandments No 4

Should I play football on a Sunday

Should I go to church why - why not?

Older children might look up the the story of David eating the corn in 1 Samuel 21 1-6 and see if they can identify any principles

2. Who did Jesus choose? Make a list of the disciples perhaps using one of these worksheets -

<http://www.akidsheart.com/bible/nt/apostles/apfindp.html> find hidden names

<http://www.akidsheart.com/bible/nt/apostles/apscramblep.html> unscramble their names

<http://www.akidsheart.com/bible/apostleswsp.htm> a word search

3. A song to the Tune of "Jesus Loves Me"

**Jesus called them one by one,  
Peter, Andrew, James and John,  
Next, came Philip, Thomas too,  
Matthew and Bartholomew.**

*Chorus-*

**Yes, Jesus called them,  
Yes, Jesus called them,  
Yes, Jesus called them,  
He called them one by one.**

**James the one they called the less,  
Simon, also Thaddeus,**

**Twelfth apostle Judas made,  
Jesus was by him betrayed.**

4. Play a game that involves choosing
5. Make an origami chooser
6. Learn the memory verse by sticking the words on the inside of boxes and getting the children to choose one box at a time ,
7. Pray thanking God that we can follow Jesus - rather than do it sat down which we often do why not get a large sheet of paper and get the children to draw/ paint the word thank you on arrows that point to Jesus

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> Centurion and Widow Luke 7 1-17**

**Focus Verse** God is taking care of his people!! Ch 7 verse 16

Big bible Story book page 151 and 156

Beginners Bible page 336

Teaching points

The centurion had both faith and compassion

Some people ask but Jesus also offers

The centurion recognised the authority Jesus demonstrated in both miracles

Jesus power and authority and compassion was not limited to those who

were Jews. NB .He went to Jewish leaders to ask for help in contacting

Jesus

Who do we go to for help Jesus sees our need before we ever ask

**Activities**

1. [http://www.ebibleteacher.com/children%20flip%20charts/centurion\\_flipchart.html](http://www.ebibleteacher.com/children%20flip%20charts/centurion_flipchart.html)

This is a rather good powerpoint to tell the story with stick figure pictures may be particularly useful with younger children or in all age service

2. Word searches and quiz can be found at

<http://www.calvarycurriculum.com/pdf/childrenscurriculum/NEW/CURR189.PDF>

3. Contrast the two stories in one the centurion asks for help and in the other

Jesus sees a need before the person asks

3. Pray for those who are ill

4. Small children should have a doctor's kit and dolls to play with to act out the story

5. think about who has the power to do things in our world



**January 29<sup>th</sup> Parables and healing Luke 8**

Big bible Story book p158

Beginners Bible p342

**Focus verse** Luke 8 verse 18 Be careful how you listen. The person who has something will be given more

Play some games where the children have to guess what

sounds are this can be done very simply behind a sheet using keys water pouring shaking a dice

What is a parable -story with meaning



Focus on parable of sower

### Teaching Points

It was easy for people to react positively and believe when they saw healings but Jesus could see that some of their roots would be shallow.

What sort of things distract us from following Jesus

How can we ensure we are in good soil?

1. To get the children thinking about the difference between hearing and listening and how we need to understand what we hear do a series of simple but familiar noises behind a screen and get them to identify them eg shaking a dice pouring water cutting paper beating an egg in a cup flipping through a magazine etc

2. Colouring picture [http://www.cordellmusicgroup.com/print\\_color\\_017.htm](http://www.cordellmusicgroup.com/print_color_017.htm)

### 3. Matching game

Soil	People who obey God
Rocky Soil	God's Word
Soil on top of the ground	Story
Weedy Soil	People
Good Soil	People who forget
Seed	People who don't try to listen
Parable	People with too many interests

Put the above on cards and get them to pair the statements up. If you want you could put one half around the room and give them a list of the others to go round and find the "meanings"

4. How about growing some seeds either cress seeds or bean sprouts gave quick results Simply put some in a pot they have decorated with some soil or if you are feeling brave make an egg head man with an upturned pot and a half egg shell for the head held on with play do or plasticine. Put soils and a few cress seeds into the egg shell and the sower will grow some hair!!

5. Older children should look back in Luke and see what sort of things Jesus has been teaching!

6. Look through Luke 8 and identify all the people that believed in Jesus and



followed him. Why did they follow him 7.

Use this or another picture of an ear and get the children to write a prayer around it asking God to help them

understand the bible and what God is teaching them . You could have a time of silence when you asked them to listen to what god was saying to them and write it in the ear.

February 5<sup>th</sup> Sent out to share Luke 10 1-24  
72  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible  
Beginners Bible



sends out



February 12 Teach us to Pray Luke 10 .38 – 11.13  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible  
Beginners Bible

February 19  
Am I ready? Luke 12.13 -13.9  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible  
Beginners Bible  
for Jesus



February 26  
Healing and hospitality Luke 14  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible  
Beginners Bible



March 4 Lost and found Luke 15  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible  
Beginners Bible

March 11 The blindness of riches Luke 16 19-31  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible



Beginners Bible Listen now!!



March `18 Peasants Pharisees and Publicans Luke 18 1-14

March 25<sup>th</sup> Luke 18 15 -43 Those who haven't and those who have  
Big bible Story book  
Jesus Storybook bible



Beginners Bible