

## INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

### What do we know about Luke?

- He was a doctor and a historian
- He is the author of Luke and Acts and so is the biggest contributor to the NT
- He was a companion of Paul
- He was a Gentile
- He was a details person; having “carefully investigated everything from the beginning” and deciding to “write and orderly account.” (1:3)

### What characteristics are present in Luke’s account?

- Written to a specific person – “most excellent Theophilus.” (1:4; cf. Acts 1:1)
- Written for a Gentile audience, from a Gentile perspective (e.g. genealogy Ch 3)
- The Holy Spirit is very active throughout the Gospel (e.g. 1:35, 41, 67, 80)
- Salvation is for ALL people! The socially unexpected are highlighted throughout the gospel – women, poor, Centurions, lepers, prostitutes etc.
- The relationship between Jesus and the religious elite intensifies as the narrative progresses. For example, read Ch 15 with this in mind.

### JJJ – Jesus’ Journey to Jerusalem

- From his return to Galilee in 4:14 through to 9:50 Jesus ministry takes place around Galilee in the north.
- 9:51 represents a major turning point in Jesus ministry and the rest of the Gospel; “As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.”
- From this moment on everything is moving from Galilee towards Jerusalem. (e.g. 13:22; 17:11; 19:1,\* 11, 28)

### Bible Study Pattern

#### 1. Read

Long Slow Read – LSR. Read a few chapters, slowly, over the course of an hour or two in your preparation.

Tempo Read – Read and reread the passage under question several times, taking note of verses/phrases/characters that stand out – e.g. Jesus, Holy Spirit, poor, women.

Repeats – Choose one verse to memorise. Repeat it many times throughout the day and over the course of a week or so. Meditate on the verse and pray it in and out.

#### 2. Examine (exegete)

Study the passage in question with the use of appropriate tools (e.g. commentary). I will provide some questions and guidance in each study here.



**3. Reflect (connect to us)**

Reflect on the passage for us today. For example, if this healing took place at Box Hill Hospital today, what would be the reaction?

**4. Imagine (difference for our time)**

Engage your imagination and dream of how your life, and the lives of those around you, could be different as a result of what God has revealed to you.

**5. Perform (our role in bringing about the difference)**

Commit to tangible actions that will bring that dream to reality.