

UNEXPECTED

DISCUSSION GUIDE

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Prayer Week** The first week of January is Northview's annual Prayer Week. The Downes Road building will be open from 6-8 p.m. from Jan. 4-8 for time spent in guided personal prayer. Pastors and elders will be present if anyone has specific requests to be prayed for.
- **New Year's Devotionals** Our pastors and staff at Northview have created a Devotional Booklet designed to help you start this year with truths about God in mind. This booklet is available to view on the Northview website.
- **Ministry Apprenticeship** Applications are now open for those interested in starting in the Ministry Apprenticeship program in Fall of 2021. If you are a, or know, a young adult who has a passion for the church and wants to grow a strong theological foundation and gain valuable ministry experience, apply at northview.org under the "Ministries" and "Leadership Development" menus.



Content



Care



Connection



Commission

PRAYER REQUESTS

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK:

Caleb and Raquel Enns serving in our Pastoral Residence program as they prepare to church plant in Thailand.

MINISTRY OF THE WEEK:

Central Abbotsford Campus

Pray for Pastor Joshua, Carrie and Levi as they try to create avenues of engagement for the campus even as we can not gather together.

Pray for those who live in central Abbotsford, that they would be open to engaging with our campus in some way.

Pray for encouragement for our people as they come out of the holiday season. For many it looked and felt different than past years, so ask God to encourage and uplift those for whom these last weeks have been particularly difficult.

LOOK

Read Luke 2:41-52

1. What stands out to you from the passage?
2. What do you remember from the sermon?
3. Did anything you heard/read spark further questions?

Things to Remember/Note About the Passage:

- The last story that Luke told about Jesus took place when he was only 6 weeks old.
- Luke is the only one of the four gospel writers to include this story.
- This passage (if you include Luke 2:39-40) has the same idea repeated before and after; that Jesus grew in various ways.

LEARN

Read Luke 1:31-33 and 68-69

1. What do these passages teach us about what kind of figure Jesus was to be?
 - He was to be a king like David.
2. What was Israel like before David reigned?
 - Israel was led by Saul before David, and when David came to power Israel was a divided nation.
3. What was the effect of David's reign? (Read 2 Sam. 7:10-11)
 - He led Israel to a place of peace, and freedom from the violence of their enemies.
 - David ultimately led Israel from being a divided kingdom to being a united, peaceful nation. What kinds of other things did Israel expect their deliverer to do?
4. What kinds of expectations of Jesus did people have during his life? (Choose a few passages)
 - For examples of people's expectations of Jesus in Luke's gospel read 4:20-22 (Joseph's son); 5:20-21 (not divine); 5:30, 19:5-7 (not spend time with outsiders/unclean); 7:13-16 (a prophet); 9:20 (the saviour); 11:37-38 (one who would follow the elder's teachings); 18:15-16 (one to great to bother with children); 22:49-52 (a violent rebel); 23:8-9, 35-39 (one who would use his power to save himself); 24:1-4, 11 (he would stay dead); 24:21 (the one who would deliver Israel)

5. How did Jesus live up to/not live up to people's expectations of him?

Read Luke 24:27, 32, 45

6. How do people come to understand Jesus?
 - Jesus opens the scriptures for them.
 - How are the Scriptures opened for us today? (Read 1 Pt. 1:19-21)
 - Scripture comes from God himself, and he opens our hearts to understand it
 - What is the significance of having both heart and mind opened? Is there a danger to only one or the other being true of us? Which are you more prone to emphasize?
 - Heart only leads to anti-intellectual faith, where people are free to stagnate. Head only leads to cold lives, unimpacted by the truth we claim to believe. Both are incomplete on their own.

LIVE

We learn that there are many things that can keep us from understanding Jesus rightly.

1. What are the things that the Bible teaches about Jesus that you have the hardest time believing?
2. What causes those particular things to be difficult to believe/understand?
3. How can we ensure that the way we see Jesus is in line with the Bible's presentation of him?
 - Study the Bible
 - Consistently
 - In community
 - Listen to good Bible teaching
 - Memorize scripture
 - Read the whole Bible (it gives you the context to understand Jesus well)
 - Pray
 - Confess the ways you are prone to misunderstand Jesus
 - Ask for God to reveal truth to you when you study