

UNEXPECTED

DISCUSSION GUIDE

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH



Content



Care



Connection



Commission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Volunteer as a Tutor!** Our Punjabi Connection ministry is starting a tutoring program on February 8th. It will run on Mondays from 3-430pm, until June 14th. You do not need to speak Punjabi in order to volunteer. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Nitu at nharry@northview.org.
- **Pre-Marriage Class** For couples who are seriously dating or engaged we are offering a pre-marriage class this coming February here at Northview's Downes Road Campus. For more details and to register check out our website, northview.org.
- **Employment Opportunity** Northview has an opening in our Discipleship Department for a Women's Ministry Administrative Assistant. For more information, please go to: northview.org/employment

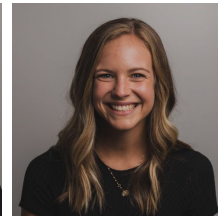
PRAYER REQUESTS

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK:

Justin and Lauren Pauls serving with YWAM, in Nepal.

MINISTRY OF THE WEEK:

High School Youth (NHSY)



Pray for our NHSY staff (Pastor Luke, Pastor Danae and Jessica) and our leaders; that the Lord would guide them and grant them creativity to connect with and teach youth in a meaningful way.

Pray for the high school students; pray against mental health challenges; pray that they would find peace and courage through the Word of God in this increasingly challenging season.

LOOK

Read Luke 3:15-20

1. What stands out to you from the passage?
2. What do you remember from the sermon?
3. What did you learn from this passage?

Observations:

- Note the Messianic expectation amongst the people (v.15)... they want to know if John the Baptist is the Christ!!
- John prophesies about the arrival of the Holy Spirit (v.16), and anticipates this event to coincide with the ministry of Jesus
- Jesus' ministry will include two aspects: gathering and burning (v.17)
- The judgment that John prophesied: "who warned you to flee from the wrath to come" (v.7) will be carried out by Jesus (v.17)
- Luke's summary of the preaching ministry of John the Baptist calls his sermon "good news" (v.18). Good news includes the idea of both wrath to come and deliverance from that wrath.
- John was willing to call out the highest local authorities on the topic of unrepentant sin, even at great personal risk (vv.19-20).
- The sermon of John the Baptist in this passage is both what he actually preached on a given day, and also representative of the kind of preaching that John the Baptist was known for (v.18)

LEARN

Read Luke 12:49-53

1. How does Jesus define His preaching ministry in this passage?
A ministry of division (v.51), where families will turn on each other because of conflicting allegiances (vv.52-53)
2. These shocking words of Jesus fulfill earlier prophecies made about Him. What had been foretold about the preaching ministry of Jesus earlier in the Gospel of Luke?
Simeon prophesied that Jesus would be opposed, and that He was appointed for the fall and rise of many people in Israel (Lk. 2:34)

Read Jeremiah 19:14-20:2, 20:8-10

3. What was the message Jeremiah preached that got him locked up?
Judgement from God on His stiff-necked (rebellious) people (v.15)
4. What is his chief complaint to the Lord?
Jeremiah is frustrated that God keeps using him to bring messages of coming violence and destruction (v.8)
5. What is Jeremiah's response to the hardships he faces?
He is suffering, but claims he has no choice but to speak the Word of the Lord since it burns inside of him (v.9)

LIVE

1. **What are ways that people *try* to make the gospel more attractive to non-believers?**
 - a) What are positive examples of this practice?
The use of accessible language (avoiding Christian jargon), sharing personal testimony, defining terms, explaining Christian practices, etc.
 - b) What are some negative examples?
Focusing on feel-good stories over the gospel, avoiding controversial topics (sin, sexual ethics, gender identity, God's justice/wrath, etc.), etc.
2. **What are the essentials of the gospel (a.k.a., "good news") according to the example we see in John the Baptist?**
 - *Hint: have someone read Luke 3:7-18 to hear the whole sermon again.*
 - *Essential ingredients: a warning of coming wrath (v.7, 17), a clear call to repentance (v.8, see also v.3), a necessary acknowledgement of sin (v.7, v.19), a call to real-life transformation (v.8), and the arrival of the Holy Spirit through the work of Jesus (v.16)*