

SERIES: MAY-JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Saturday, 6/18/2022 Scripture: Luke

TITLE: Luke – The Perfect Son

I'm not a detailed person. That may surprise you. Now, it's true that I can be detail-oriented. I enjoy studying God's Word. I like to plan trips. But generally speaking, I want the bullet points and the quickest way to success.

But I will tell you that when I need the details, I am thankful they are there. When I tackle putting together a piece of furniture from Ikea, I am thrilled they've documented each piece of the construction process.

When a person is on trial, the jury and judge are benefited from a thorough account. Well, because of the details, you should read the Book of Luke.

The Book of Luke is the third Gospel recording the life of Christ. The author is the physician Luke. Luke was a detailed person, and I am thankful. I'm sure he was thorough with his patients. He is certainly thorough in his recording of the life of Christ. Luke was with Paul during his first Roman imprisonment, and Paul referred to him as "Luke, the beloved physician" (see Colossians 4:14; Philemon 1:24). During his second Roman imprisonment, Paul wrote, "Only Luke is with me" (2 Timothy 4:11), evidence of Luke's loyalty to the apostle in the face of danger.

Luke was writing this letter for Theophilus and Gentile Christians. Why? He tells us in chapter 1:3-4 (CSB),

"I have carefully investigated everything from the very first, to write to you in an orderly sequence, most honorable Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things about which you have been instructed."

So he wrote this letter so Theophilus and us may have certainty about Jesus. The theme of this Gospel is the perfect Son of Man who came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). It is in Luke's Gospel you walk with the Son of Man. He is the perfect Son of God.

One of the most frightening passages is found in the book of Luke. Luke 13:24-27 says,

"'Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and won't be able once the homeowner gets up and shuts the door. Then you will stand outside and knock on the door, saying, "Lord, open up for us!" He will answer you, "I don't know you or where you're from." Then you will say, "We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in

our streets." But he will say, "I tell you, I don't know you or where you're from. Get away from me, all you evildoers!""

Many people today feel they are saved because they identify as a Christian on Facebook, they attend church, they were raised in a Christian home, or they have some notions of Jesus. But saving faith involves complete surrender to Jesus as the only way to God. Jesus came to seek and save the lost. Are you found or still wandering? You can be sure.

So here's my challenge for you today: surrender to the perfect Son of God. In Luke 9, Jesus reminds the disciples and us of the cost of discipleship. Saving faith results in surrender. It's in our humility we are made strong. It is in our dependence we become useful to Christ. So surrender your life to the perfect Son. You cannot fail when you follow the evidence and follow Jesus.

When we follow Jesus daily, we will win the day.