

## The Story Church - 3.12.23

### A Physician and the Facts: Luke's Pursuit of the Truth

Part Sixteen: *Childlike Faith*

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**SERIES INTRO:** He was a doctor - a scientist trained to do meticulous research in pursuit of the truth. He was also an educated Gentile who became the only non-Jewish author of the Bible. And in the middle of the first century AD, this man devoted his life to answering one question: **Can Christianity be trusted?**

His name was Luke, and after years of researching the extraordinary claims being made by a small, highly motivated sect called *The Way*, he became an unlikely disciple of Jesus. How could a reasonable researcher come to believe that a 1st Century Jewish rabbi who was executed by the Romans is the living Son of God? We'll explore this question and more at The Story Church throughout this 22-week series as we follow Luke's logic from the Christmas manger to Easter's empty tomb.

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**REFLECTION QUESTION:** Throughout the gospel of Luke, Jesus talks about the Kingdom of God more than any other topic. How would you describe the Kingdom of God? How is it different from earthly kingdoms?

You can \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God.

*After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" say, "The Lord needs it." Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!". Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you", he replied, "if they keep quiet even the stones will cry out." Luke 19:28-40*

Read Zechariah 9:9. How was Jesus' triumphal entry the statement of a King? What would the crowds of people have expected Jesus to do as a king?

**Rejection can occur in two ways:**

\_\_\_\_\_ rejection & \_\_\_\_\_ rejection.

In Luke 19, we read about crowds praising Jesus and acknowledging His kingship. Read Luke 23:18-24. How does this passage help us understand the true motives of the crowd?

**Subtle rejection looks like being \_\_\_\_\_ but not \_\_\_\_\_.**

Read Philippians 3:17-19. Describe a time in your life when you lived under your own authority, or the authority of anything besides Jesus. What was the result?

*As he [Jesus] approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it. And said, "If you, even you had only known on this day what would bring you peace - but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you." - Luke 19:41-44*

How does Jesus respond to us when we reject God's kingdom?

Read Romans 5:10. How is Jesus distinct from every other king? Why is He worthy of everything?

**Acceptance is \_\_\_\_\_.**

Read Philippians 3:20-21. What part(s) of your life do you feel convicted to surrender to Jesus? What does it practically look like to surrender and live as a citizen of the Kingdom?

\* Find the full March Reading Plan at [thestory.church/resources](http://thestory.church/resources)

