

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – April 11, 2021

Theme: Lessons from the Life of Jesus

Topic: Jesus: His Purpose

Main Texts: Luke 4:16-30, 42-44

Key verse: Luke 4:18-19 *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”* (NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: Jesus’ public ministry was formally launched in Nazareth, the small village where He grew up. Luke’s account of it states that Jesus had gone to the synagogue, as was His practice, and took the Scripture reading on that Sabbath day. The passage He read happened to be a messianic prophecy from Isaiah 58:6 and 61:1-2: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”* (Luke 4:18-19 NKJV). And after reading, He went on to add that His hearers were now witnessing the fulfillment of that prophecy (Luke 4:21). With these words, Jesus set the stage for the rest of His earthly life and ministry.

- 1. (a) What do the specifics of the passage Jesus read tell us about His purpose? (b) Why do you think these passages He read from Isaiah were significant to His purpose?**

Though the Jews had been anticipating the fulfillment of the messianic prophecy Jesus read to them, still they did not like the idea of this ordinary ‘Home Boy’ becoming the promised Messiah. And they tried to kill Him. Undeterred, Jesus went from there and returned to Capernaum where He healed many and drove out demons. The people were so enchanted by these miracles that they tried to prevent Jesus from leaving their town. But He refused to align with them for *‘I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also because for this purpose I have been sent’* (Luke 4:43). Jesus had clarity about His purpose. The word “purpose” has been defined as *“the reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists”*. The late Dr. Myles Munroe defined purpose as *“when you know and understand what you were born to accomplish.”* Renowned author and pastor, Rick Warren, corroborated this by saying that *“knowing your purpose gives your life meaning, simplicity, focus and motivation. It also prepares you for eternity.”*

- 2. Read Mark 10:45; Luke 4: 42-44; John 12:27-28; 1 Timothy 1:15; Hebrews 10:5-9. (a) What is Jesus’ stated purpose on earth? (b) Why do you think the people in Luke 4:40-44 missed Jesus’ purpose on earth? And what can we learn from Jesus’ handling of their attempt to keep Him from pursuing His mission?**

Fully aware of His purpose on earth and how critical to God’s plans that purpose is, He went about that purpose with unflinching commitment. He declared that *“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work”* (John 9:4). For our Lord Jesus Christ, pursuing His purpose on was a “must”. There was no room for delay or to allow anything to distract Him from His mission – not even death. In John 12:27-28 He said, *“Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? No, it is for this purpose that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify Your name!”* And when He completed His mission, He said, *“As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”*

- 3. (a) Read Romans 8:29; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8. What do you think is God’s purpose for saving us and leaving us on this sinful world? (b) In what ways can we apply the lessons from this study on our God given purpose?**

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You lived Your life here on earth fully committed to the one purpose of saving us. And You have given us the one assignment to advance God’s Kingdom. Please help me to align my life to Your purpose and be fully committed to it as You were. Amen.