

# Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

## SSBC Luke Bible Study #26

*Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passage that next Sunday's sermon will be focused on.*

Passage: Luke 8:22-56

Sermon Date: Mar 19, 2006

### Introduction:

It's been a week since we explored the parable of the Sower and considered the condition of our "soil."

The seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering, produce a crop. (Luke 8:15)

How's your heart? Your retention? Your fruitfulness?

This week brings us a collection of four intense incidents which happened in close succession. Give yourself time to soak them in, both as four separate stories and also as a related set with a key message.

As you enter into God's Word, take time first to ask God to till your soil, clearing out the distractions and pressures that can so often choke out our focus and ability to hear.

### Bible Study:

1. Read this week's bible passage and use the charts on the next four pages to make observations and jot down any questions you have.

*This bible study was developed by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. To hear a sermon on the same scripture passage covered in this bible study, come to one of our Sunday worship services (8:30am or 11:00am) on the date listed on page 1. Or after that date you can hear it by logging on to [www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/](http://www.southshorebaptist.com/sermons/)*

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Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>22</sup> One day Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." So they got into a boat and set out. <sup>23</sup> As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.</p> <p><sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!"</p> <p>He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. <sup>25</sup> "Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples.</p> <p>In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."</p> <p><sup>26</sup> They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. <sup>27</sup> When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" <sup>29</sup> For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>30</sup> Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"</p> <p>"Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.</p> <p><sup>32</sup> A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into them, and he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.</p> <p><sup>34</sup> When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, <sup>35</sup> and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.</p> <p><sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, a crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. <sup>41</sup> Then a man named Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come to his house <sup>42</sup> because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying.</p> <p>As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. <sup>43</sup> And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.</p> <p><sup>45</sup> "Who touched me?" Jesus asked.</p> <p>When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you."</p> <p><sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me."</p> <p><sup>47</sup> Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. <sup>48</sup> Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>49</sup> While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," he said. "Don't bother the teacher any more."</p> <p><sup>50</sup> Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed."</p> <p><sup>51</sup> When he arrived at the house of Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child's father and mother. <sup>52</sup> Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. "Stop wailing," Jesus said. "She is not dead but asleep."</p> <p><sup>53</sup> They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But he took her by the hand and said, "My child, get up!" <sup>55</sup> Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat. <sup>56</sup> Her parents were astonished, but he ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened.</p>	

2. Some of your questions may be answered by reading the parallel passage in Mark 4:35 – 5:43. Sometimes it's hard to get the gist of longer passages, but if you invest some time in reading these passages repeatedly, you'll get a feel for the intensity of what it must have been like to follow Jesus as the apostles did. As you read and reread, sit at Christ's feet (as the Gerasene man did in Luke 8:35), listening for the overall point being made by both Luke and Mark as they tell these stories in the same order. Do you see an overall theme?

3. Next, use this chart to **interpret some key observations**.

a. Select a few of your observations & questions from pages 2-3 that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and interpret and apply them using the columns to the right.

b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:

- What does it mean?
- Why is this important?
- What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

4. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- **S**ins to avoid
- **P**romises to believe
- **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- **C**ommands to obey
- **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them – listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

