

# Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

## SSBC Luke Bible Study #72

*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 19:11-27

Sermon Date: Feb 11, 2007

### **A Master of Surprise**

I love surprise endings (except when they involve a sports team I'm rooting for losing at the last minute!). It's fun to watch a mystery movie and, after trying to anticipate who the villain might be, to be caught totally off-guard when it turns out to be someone who seemed so innocent. What is it about these unexpected twists that appeals to us so?

God loves surprise endings too. Noah's 'crazy' ark and the flood that really did come! The Israelites marching around Jericho and shouting – and actually knocking down its walls! Jesse's littlest son David chosen to be the next king! After centuries of waiting, a messiah is born to a peasant girl in a lowly stable. The king of the universe being killed to the cheers of a lynch mob, only to rise from the dead! Indeed – the Bible is full of surprise endings.

God also uses surprise twists in stories called parables to get our attention and cause us to change our ways. In this week's passage, a king entrusts his servants with money, and we have much to learn from how they invest it (or in one case, fail to invest it). May God surprise you today with unexpected insights and closeness to him as you sit at his feet and listen to his story ...

*These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon as inserts in the church bulletin and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>. Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact [studieditor@southshorebaptist.com](mailto:studieditor@southshorebaptist.com)*

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**Bible Study:**

1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the chart below to note your observations and any questions you have.

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>11</sup> While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. <sup>12</sup> He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. <sup>13</sup> So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'</p> <p><sup>14</sup> "But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.'</p> <p><sup>15</sup> "He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.</p> <p><sup>16</sup> "The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'</p> <p><sup>17</sup> "Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'</p> <p><sup>18</sup> "The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.'</p> <p><sup>19</sup> "His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'</p>	

Scripture	Your Observations & Questions
<p><sup>20</sup> "Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. <sup>21</sup> I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.'</p> <p><sup>22</sup> "His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? <sup>23</sup> Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'</p> <p><sup>24</sup> "Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.'</p> <p><sup>25</sup> "'Sir,' they said, 'he already has ten!'</p> <p><sup>26</sup> "He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>27</sup> But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me.'"</p>	

2. 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?

<b>Observation</b> What does it say?	<b>Interpretation</b> What does it mean?

3. 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.

<b>Application</b> How do I apply what it means?



