

# Luke

Carefully Investigating the Gospel ... Together

## SSBC Luke Bible Study #85

*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 22:24-30

NOTE: We will go back and study Luke 22:7-23 next week (5/27), which is a Communion Sunday.

Sermon Date: May 20, 2007

### Got a Friend?

How good are you at having close friends? Do you have many? Would you like to have a few more?

As we enter the final parts of Luke's gospel, we find Jesus inviting us into closer intimacy with him. He even invites us to literally dine with him, and to ultimately do so at some sort of heavenly yet real banquet. But there's a catch: To get there, he first asks us to draw close to him in his hardest moments – including his time on the cross.

As we read about and feel the pain of Jesus' suffering, it overflows into our lives, and we grow closer to him. Have you noticed that close friendships are often formed or cemented by difficult circumstances endured together? It's the same with God. We are to know him, to stand by him when others mock him, to tell his story, to even be willing to endure hardships and even persecution because of our friendship with him. Are you willing?

Would you like to have a good friend? How about one named Jesus?

*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 Passage:

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>24</sup> Also a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. <sup>27</sup> For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. <sup>28</sup> You are those who have stood by me in my trials. <sup>29</sup> And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, <sup>30</sup> so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.</p>	

Prayer Response:

2. Before launching into further study of this passage, take time to pray through it. Read it one line at a time and have an interactive conversation with God about what you hear in each verse. What is your heart's response to it? Do you cringe at your own pride and lack of humility? Do you flash back to times when you have "lorded over" others (or been lorded over)? Are you especially stirred or intrigued by a certain verse or word or idea? Are you warmed by (or maybe frightened by) the thought of sitting at a banquet table with God?

Try writing your prayer below. Sometimes writing out our prayers can help us untangle our thoughts and cause them to echo back to us. Hearing our own prayers can also help us fathom how the heart of God might be responding to our prayer.

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?

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

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

**Look Closer:**

5. Was this the first time the disciples debated about which one of them was the greatest? What does that tell you about them? (consider Mt 20:20-28, Mark 9:33-37, 10:35-45, and Luke 9:46-48)

6. Some of the oppressive leaders of the Gentiles mistakenly saw themselves as “benefactors” when in fact they were mostly looking out for themselves and doing most everything for their own benefit.

a. What about you? In your life, when have you sought to be seen or treated as better, higher, or more important than others?

b. Who do you know that you would find it difficult to regard yourself as “less than” or a servant of? List some specific people if possible, or at least some specific groups or types of people.

c. What are some specific ways you could seek to serve people you might otherwise tend to regard yourself as greater than?

7. Jesus was the consummate “servant-leader.”

a. What are some specific ways in which Jesus modeled humility and servant-leadership?

b. How could you appropriately conduct yourself with more humility and/or more as a servant-leader?

8. In verse 28 Jesus refers to trials his disciples stood by him through.

a. What trials\* do you think Jesus is referring to? What does this tell you about Jesus’ life and ministry? What does it tell you about the disciples?

\* Note: The Greek word “peirasmois” which is translated as “trials” in Luke 22:28 is the same word found in Luke 4:2 translated as “tempted” (“for forty days he was tempted by the devil”).

b. What would it look like for a person living today to “stand by Jesus in his trials”?

9. What is Jesus promising his disciples in verses 29-30? Do you see this promise as one made to you as well? If so, what are its implications for your life and future?

10. In the Bible, how is **suffering** in present times (eg. Lk 22:24-28) related to **glory** in times to come (eg. Lk 22:29-30)? (Also consider Luke 24:26, 2 Cor 3:16-5:10, Rom 8:17-25, and Heb 12:2) What does this tell you about your own life and whatever suffering you may experience?

11. How does your study of this passage relate to your daily life? In the days and weeks ahead, how can you apply what you've learned here?