





An Advancing Kingdom

Luke 9,
Part A

L'Amable Bible Chapel

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In a small corner of the Roman Empire, a new kingdom is advancing...

- In Luke, we have passed some of the preparation chapters and are moving into broader ministry
- **Question:** *“If you were Jesus, what would you do next?”* **WWYD**



Luke 9...the continuing story

This chapter has several events that follow the same order in all gospels...

- Sending out the disciples to preach
- Feeding the 5,000
- Peter's confession of who Jesus is
- The Transfiguration of Jesus
- Jesus' predictions of his death

The view of Luke, Mark, & Matthew

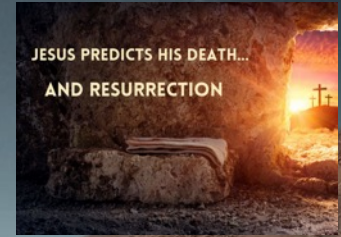
Sending out the 12

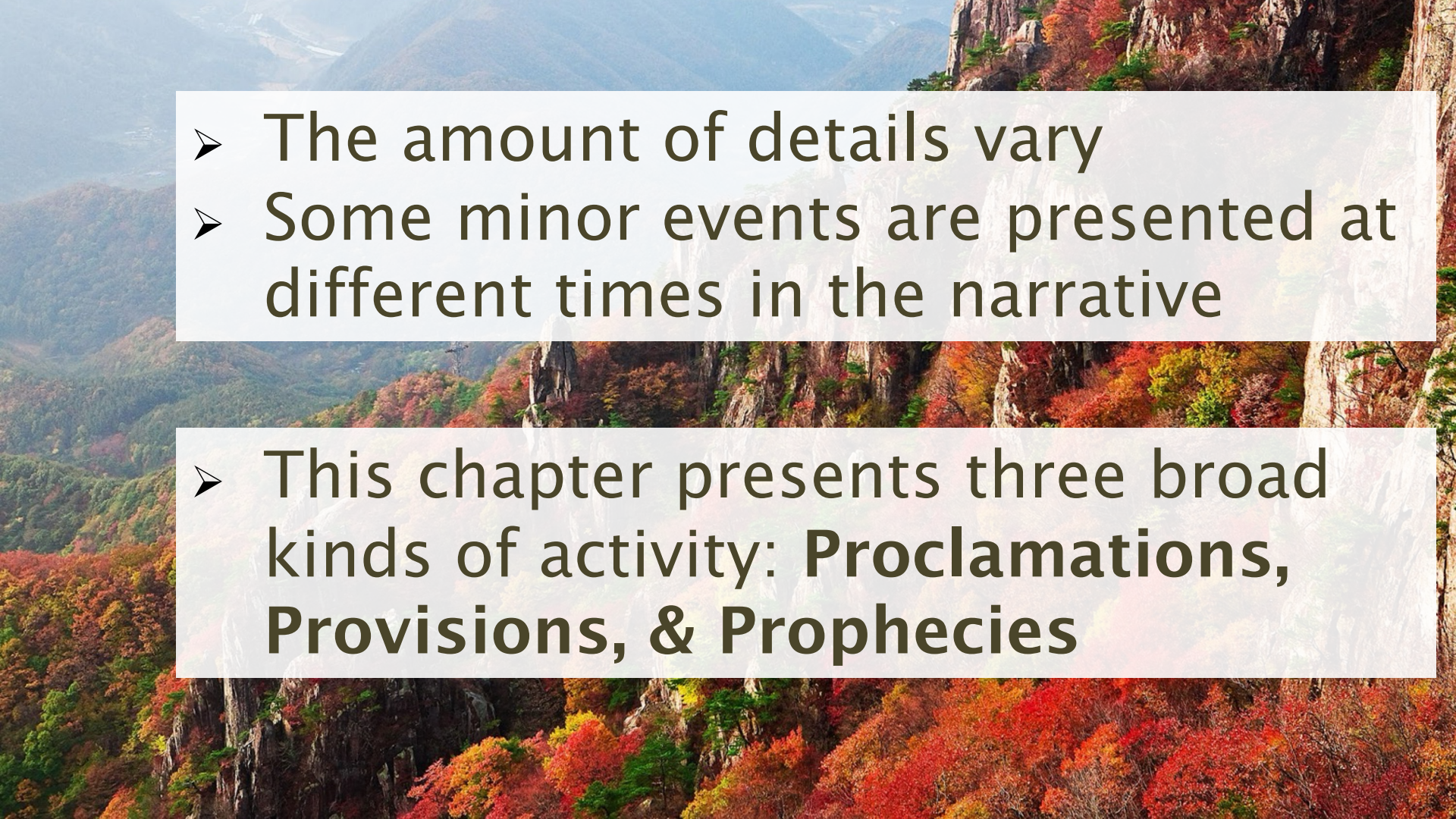
Feeding the 5,000

Jesus is Transformed

Peter understands Jesus

Jesus predicts his death

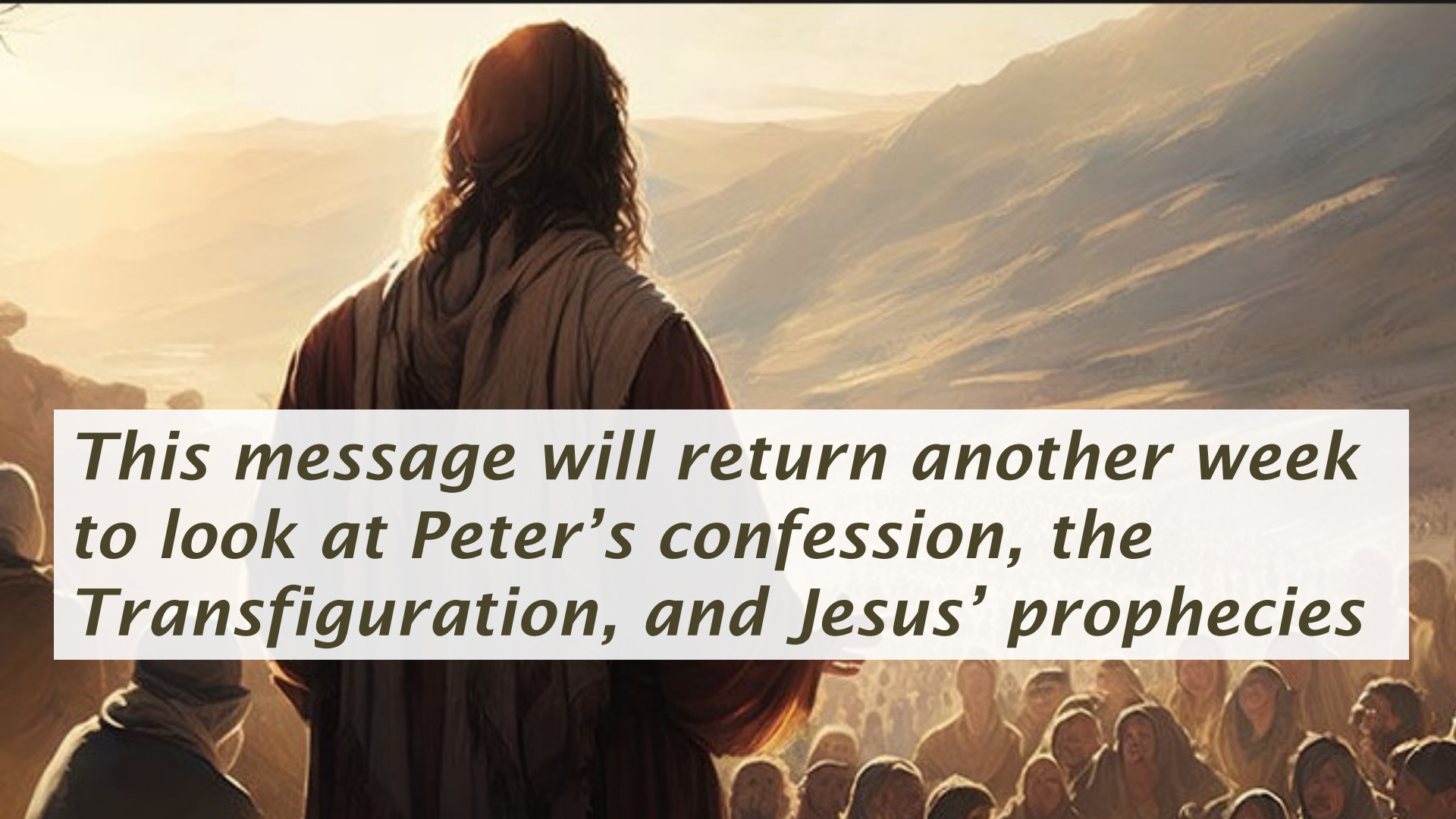


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- The amount of details vary
 - Some minor events are presented at different times in the narrative

- This chapter presents three broad kinds of activity: **Proclamations, Provisions, & Prophecies**

Proclamations, Provisions, & Prophecies

- We see the disciples go out to Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- Feeding & many healings are Provisions from God
- Prophecy is given about people resisting, and about Jesus dying

A religious painting depicting Jesus Christ from behind, looking out over a vast, hazy mountain range at sunset. He is wearing a brown robe and a head covering. In the foreground, the heads and shoulders of a crowd of people are visible, looking towards him. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun.

***This message will return another week
to look at Peter's confession, the
Transfiguration, and Jesus' prophecies***

A. Proclamation



Luke 9:1-6

9 When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ He told them: “Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt.

⁴ Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. ⁵ If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.” ⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere.



CHRIST

His Mission

Proclaiming means telling...

Jesus is telling why
he has come...
...and revealing
who he is

*Isn't it puzzling
why more hearers
don't know this?*



**In actual fact,
Luke's details in
chapter 9 are
minimal
compared to the
other Gospels,
but key truths
remain...**



- ❖ Matthew & Mark have much more detail about how John the Baptist died...
- ❖ Matthew 10 especially warns the disciples about the coming resistance to their preaching...
- ❖ *Matt. 10:16 "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Be on your guard..."*



Key ideas in these Proclamations:

- 1) Preaching the Good News can be delegated
- 2) God's servants can be empowered – proclaiming the Gospel, driving out demons, healing the sick...

3) The workers are supported by the people!

4) There will also be resistance...

5) But there is overall success!

*All this from telling
Good News?*



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE

4 ver. 88, 89

CHAPTER I

Isn't Luke's Gospel itself a
public proclamation?

What is our role today?

13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zách-à-rí-às: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall hail his birth.

16 And many of the children of Israel shall be turned to the Lord their God.



B. Provision



Luke 9:10-17

¹⁰ When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, ¹¹ but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.



¹² Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, “Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here.”
¹³ He replied, “You give them something to eat.”

They answered, “We have only five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all this crowd.” ¹⁴ (About five thousand men were there.) But he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” ¹⁵ The disciples did so, and everyone sat down.



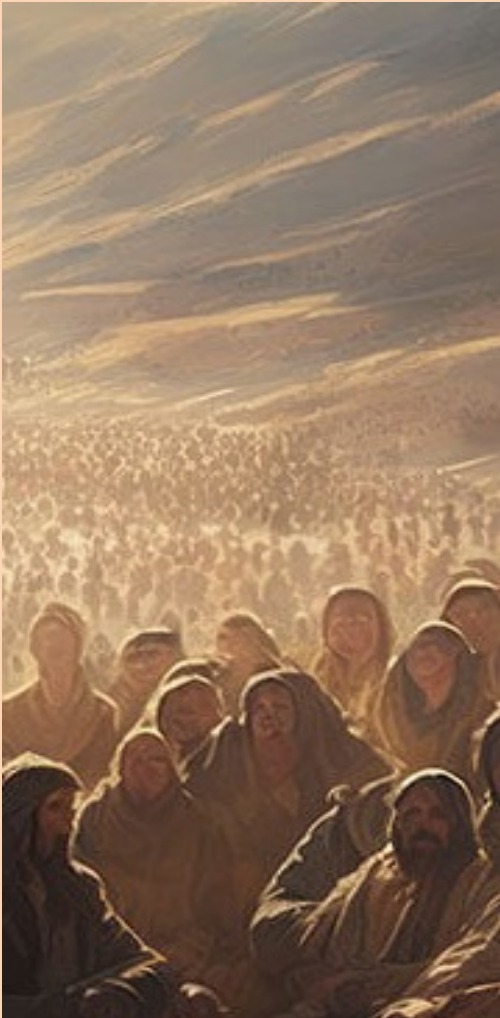
¹⁶ Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. ¹⁷ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.



Key ideas of Provision:

V.11 is key: “He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.”

- 1) ...it starts with Jesus (‘He’)
- 2) The central context is His Kingdom



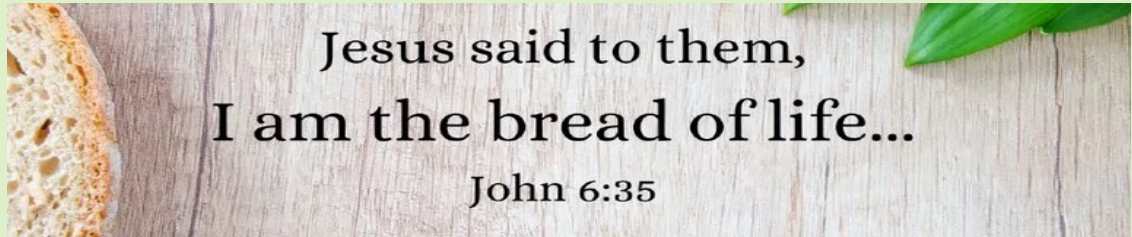
3) Healing is right there—a reversal of the effects of sin

4) Nutrition to sustain life follows—centered on God

Jesus is showing us that spiritual renewal begins with him...we come into his Kingdom...sin's ravages are reversed...and God sustains us



- ❖ There can be a temptation to first chase the bread and fish but miss Jesus!
- ❖ *John 6: “³⁵ Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶ But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe.”*



- ❖ Could it be a challenge to tell others to seek relationship and restoration with Jesus first? What about us?
- ❖ In our affluent world, do people want inner wholeness?
- ❖ We may be too saturated with stuff and too starved of Jesus!





Walking
on water

*This is found
in Matthew &
John—right
after feeding
the 5000*

God's
reminder!



C. Prophecy



For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:
but whosoever will lose his life for my sake,
the same shall save it.

Luke 9:24



❖ Written in the form of a proverb—called an ‘axiom’—something always true

❖ Jesus has others: Matthew 23:12:

“For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Matthew 6:14: *“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:
but whosoever will lose his life for my sake,
the same shall save it.

Luke 9:24





- Next time we will see how Jesus' prophecies about himself are the **context** of how we should see our lives
- As Christians, our lives belong to Jesus
- God is very aware of where our heart is

Conclusions



- ❖ The story of Jesus is growing
- ❖ From child to youth to man, Jesus' Kingdom is advancing
- ❖ In this chapter we see waves of Proclamation, Provision, and Prophecy
- ❖ There is more to discover as Jesus begins to tell about the end of his mission
- ❖ The challenge for his hearers is growing

- ❖ In the last few verses of the chapter are sobering thoughts!
- ❖ *A variety of people express commitment on one level, but Jesus identifies a better level...*



Luke 9:57-62



⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

⁵⁹ He said to another man,
“Follow me.”

But he replied, “Lord, first
let me go and bury my
father.”

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, “Let the
dead bury their own dead,
but you go and proclaim the
kingdom of God.”





⁶¹ Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

⁶² Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

- ❖ It sounds stark, but Jesus promises “to never leave us nor forsake us”
- ❖ We should remember the disciples faltered and ran away—Peter denied Jesus—but they came back and God used them mightily!
- ❖ The key is to hold the hand of Jesus...
- ❖ ...and listen to his voice



**Luke will
continue!**



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