Luke

A Series by Crosswalk Church

Dear Youth Leader,

Crosswalk is grateful for your ministry! This series, we are working in-step with our teaching team as we dive into the teachings of Jesus in Luke 5-9. As you teach, there will be many opportunities to talk about how to build and foster a relationship with Jesus. Please share your stories and struggles with open hearts and encourage questions. High school is a time where students are truly beginning to search for spiritual answers that can become lifelong practices. Try to put yourself in their shoes (or ask them about it), and encourage them to sit in the texts during the week and to listen for what Jesus is teaching.

I am praying for you as you prep your time with your youth group, and can't wait to hear how it went. Please reach out if you have any questions, ideas, or stories! I'm here to support you!

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Series Outline

Week 1 | September 21
Luke 5

Week 2 | September 28
Luke 6

Week 3 | October 5
Luke 7

Week 4 | October 12
Luke 8

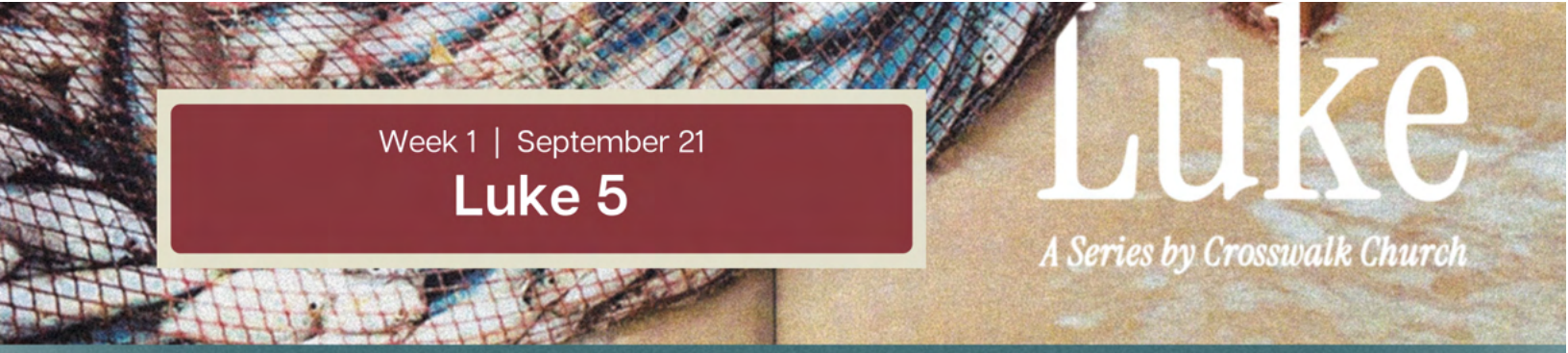
Week 5 | October 19
Luke 9

Suggested Format

Belonging | 25 - 30 min
Breakfast / Welcome
Sharing / Activity

Experience | 25 - 30 min
Worship
Message / Discussion

Momentum | 5 - 10 min
Challenge / Application
Announcements / Visioning



Week 1 | September 21

Luke 5

Luke

A Series by Crosswalk Church

Preparation

Read Luke 5

notice main ideas, points of tension, and any resonant for your youth

Listen to the *Crosswalk Daily Study* podcast

also listen to the *Abide Daily* podcast and sit in the texts with Pastor Jon

Reflect on your experience

find a story in your life where God was redirecting your life to share the gospel

Sharing Activity

Activity Idea

Over breakfast, show and talk about first century Galilean fishing boats and fishing techniques (you might have to do some quick research.

- picture of fishing boat
- read about fishing techniques

Possible Icebreaker Questions

- Have you ever pulled an all-nighter? How excited would you be to hear a sermon after that? What if it was Jesus preaching?

Message Main Points

- Read Luke 5:1-3. Jesus asks to step into Simon Peter's boat, and uses his teachings to plant seeds with all who are listening. Peter's boat becomes the launching pad for the gospel. Are lives can be the launchpad of the gospel.
- Read Luke 5:4-8. The fisherman had failed all night to catch fish (that is the time to go fishing!). How would they feel for this carpenter (not a fisherman!) to be telling them this advice. In our lives, failure is the place where Jesus does his best work in our life.
- Read Luke 9-11. The miracle that Jesus did was impressive. But what is more striking is the miracle of these first disciples choosing to leave everything and follow Jesus. We can't quit school or become preacher/miracle workers today. But can this principle be true of us?

Discussion Questions

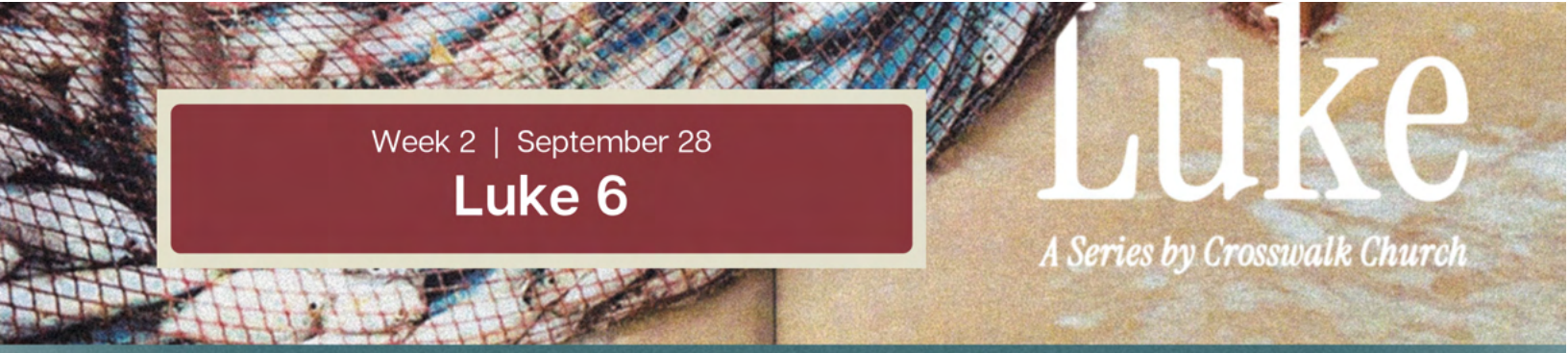
- Would you have traveled far to hear the words and teachings of Jesus?
- The miracle of fish nearly broke their nets and sunk their boats. How do you perceive God, with an expectation of abundance or scarcity? Does it show in how you live?
- Do you feel like Jesus is in your life (in your boat)? How can you open your heart to him today?

Application

Jesus call for us is also to be fishers of men. Share with the person beside you what that can look like in practical ways in your life.

Challenge

What do you need to experience to drop everything and follow Jesus where he is asking you to go?



Week 2 | September 28

Luke 6

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Preparation

Read Luke 6

notice main ideas, points of tension, and any resonant for your youth

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Reflect on your experience

find a story in your life where God's teaching became a life foundation

Sharing Activity

Activity Idea

Split your group into groups of 5 or so. Have the students share their names and some interesting facts. Feel free to give them some prompts. These groups will be used for the rest of the lesson. If you know your group well, it could also be a good idea to set up the groups in a way that will encourage discussion. You could also find some randomisers online to make picking groups at the beginning fun. Have kids cheer as you draw names and assign groups.

Small Group Discussion and Sharing

- Today we are encouraging a different format. Split your youth into groups of 5 or so.
- Assign each group a teaching of Jesus from Luke 6:20-49.
  - Sections: v20-26, v27-36, v37-42, v43-45, v46-49.
- Have each group read the verses together, and discuss:
  - Why did Jesus share this teaching?
  - What is the meaning of the story? Is it confusing?
  - What can we apply and learn in our life as students today?
  - What can be a modern day metaphor/parable/illustration/example of this principle?

Presenting and Teaching

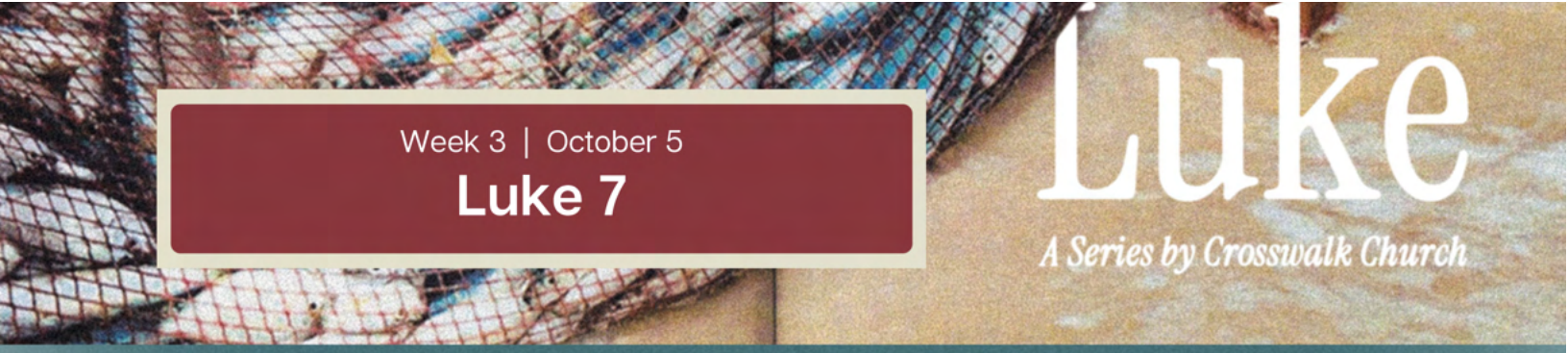
- Have each group stand up and share their section, present why it is important, and what it means.
- Have each group share their modern day parable with everyone else.
- Encourage cheering and applause for everyone. Today's teaching method is a good way to build community, increase involvement, and show the kids their interpretation and reading matters.

Application

What is one takeaway that you can take from the teachings today? Share it with your group, then write it on a note on your phone so you can reflect on it later.

Challenge

Encourage the kids to read the words of Jesus (the ones in Red) in Luke 6 everyday this week. We trust the Holy Spirit to continue to guide and teach us as we simmer in the text.



Week 3 | October 5

Luke 7

Luke

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Preparation

Read Luke 7

notice main ideas, points of tension, and any resonant for your youth

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Reflect on your experience

find a story in your life where you experienced the power of forgiveness

Sharing Activity

Activity Idea

Play "this or that." Make statements (ex. cats or dogs) and have the group choose to go to "this" side or "that" side. After a few rounds, talk about how we are all so different, and how that can lead us to not interact and communicate in the most understanding ways. Difference can lead to conflict and disagreement.

Possible Icebreaker Questions

- What are things people do or say that annoy you?
- Would you rather have a conversation to apologise and forgive, or pretend nothing has happened?

Message Main Points

- Read Luke 7:36-50 together. Alternatively, you can choose to watch the video below (from the Gospel Collection movies):
  - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12eS68-8RmM
- Ask the group how it would feel to be in the room.
- Go through each character, asking the students to describe and relate to each one.
  - List: Simon the Pharisee, Forgiven Woman, other men at table, Jesus, people hearing the story for the first time the next day.
- The power of forgiveness is hard to grasp, and so we often do not understand it or judge when someone receives or claims forgiveness. We only truly learn it when we have experienced forgiveness ourselves.
- Share your story of experiencing the power of forgiveness.

Discussion Questions

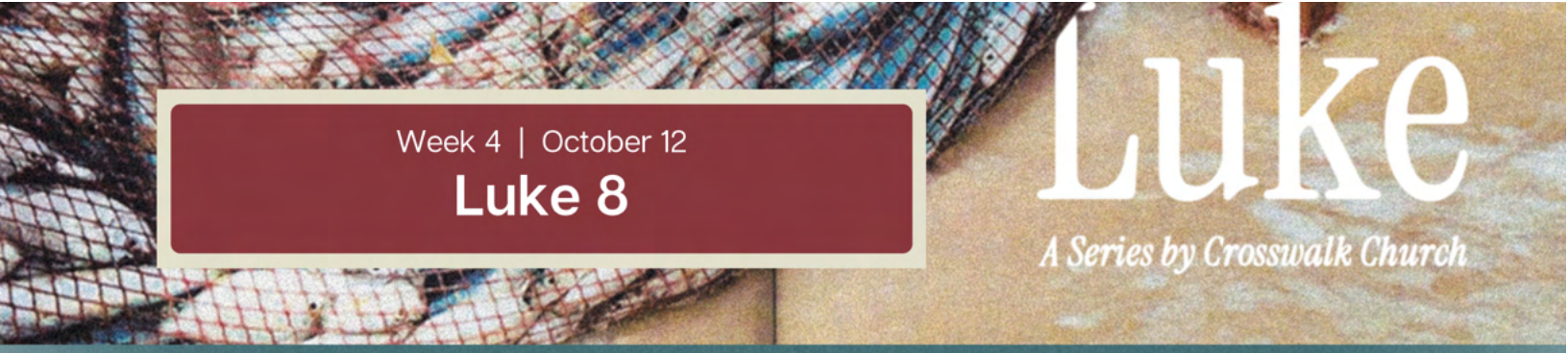
- Have you been forgiven much or little?
- What about experiencing forgiveness requires faith (verse 50)?
- Is there a benefit to us when we forgive others? What is it?

Application

Make a list of people who have forgiven you recently.
Make a list of people you have forgiven recently.
Make a list of people who you have been holding back forgiveness from.

Challenge

Forgive the people on the last part of your list. Pray for wisdom and courage, and then go out and do it now!



Week 4 | October 12

Luke 8

Luke

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Preparation

Read Luke 8

notice main ideas, points of tension, and any resonant for your youth

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Reflect on your experience

find a story in your life where you experienced a moment of harvest

Sharing Activity

Activity Idea

It is very difficult for modern day hearers to truly understand the patience and time needed for farming and growing plants. Search how long it takes to fully grow a variety of trees, plants, fruits etc. Put together a questionnaire and see how the kids do. (ex. it can take up to 3 years to grow a pineapple from a seed)

Possible Icebreaker Questions

- What are some ways you have grown in the last year? Was it intentional, or did it just happen?

Message Main Points

- Before we get into this famous parable of the farmer scattering seed, it is important to note that the seed Jesus was planting in his time truly landed on all people. The crowds, teachers of the law, sinners, soldiers, followers, and women. This is hugely inclusive of Luke 8:1-3. 3 inclusive statements representing a Jesus who wants all people in his kingdom.
- Read Luke 8:4-15
- Why do you think Jesus quotes Isaiah 6:9 in Luke 8:10? What it is the difference between looking and seeing? hearing and understanding?
- It is important that we take time to sit in these well known teachings, or else we might take simple morals from it, and be not understanding Jesus' kingdom principles at all!

Discussion Questions

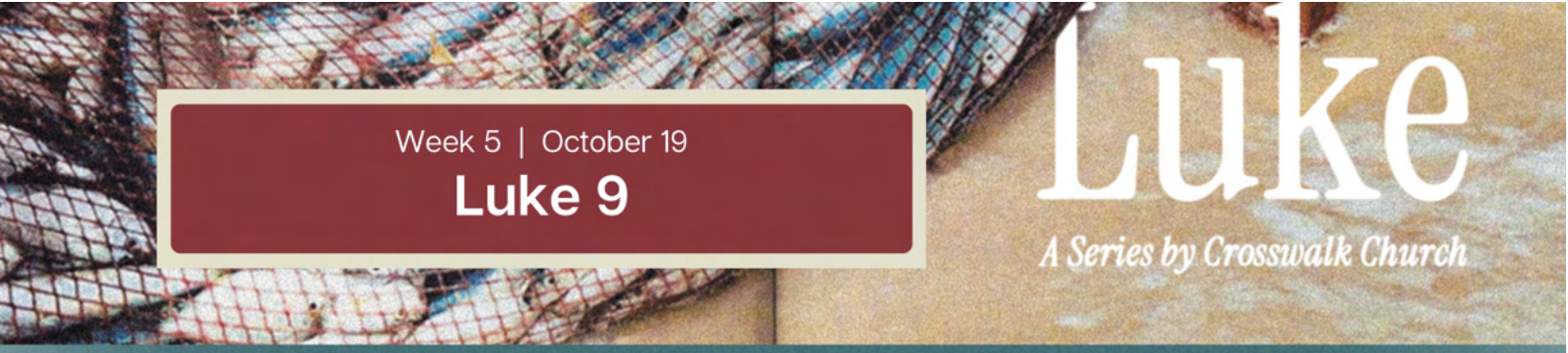
- While there is definitely a proper way to read this parable (Jesus does explain it), there is great value in seeing how the parable applies to us if:
  - we are the farmer
  - we are the seed
  - we are the ground
- Talk about all these principles together!

Application

Today do you feel like the footpath, the rocky soil, the thorns, or the good soil? Don't jump straight to saying you are good soil. Be honest with your heart. That is a good place to start.

Challenge

How can we be like the good soil? Take out your phone and give yourself two or three practical steps and pray that the Holy Spirit works in your heart.



Week 5 | October 19

Luke 9

Luke

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Preparation

Read Luke 9

notice main ideas, points of tension, and any resonant for your youth

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Reflect on your experience

find a story in your life where following Jesus cost you something.

Sharing Activity

Activity Idea

If you don't do music in your youth group, today might be a good day to ask some musicians at your crosswalk/lovewell and ask them to lead in two or three songs. Choose songs that highlight following Jesus over everything else.

Possible Icebreaker Questions

- What is something in life you take very seriously?
- How do you decide when something is worth doing or not?

Message Main Points

- This chapter has three sections that point to the seriousness of following Jesus, and the cost that comes with choosing to be a disciple.
  - Luke 9:1-6
  - Luke 9:23-27
  - Luke 9:57-62
- Read each section together, and have the group make a list of principles for "serious disciples only." It might be helpful to write out responses on a whiteboard as students share them.

Heart Check

For this last section of the series, ask kids to take out their phone and make a new note. Ask each question and give them 2-3 minutes to reflect and write responses for themselves.

- What are some of the things you've given up to follow Christ?
- What have you surrendered? What have you left behind? What have you sacrificed?
- If you can't think of anything, why might that be?

Application

Follower of Jesus, disciple, Christian. This is the most important undertaking of our life. Do you believe it?

Challenge

As we finish the series, split your youth into groups and have them share what they hope to lean into as they continue to follow Jesus. Have them pray with and over each other. End in a large prayer together.

A Final Note,

Life gets crazy. Sometimes we walk into a room knowing we haven't prepped enough. A high-schooler might walk in with the weight of a hard week on their minds, and the last place they want to be is youth group. The teenage community you are leading will have cliques, crazy couples, and apathetic kids. All this to say that teaching in this scenario will rarely feel like you did a great job. Don't worry, you don't need to. **Jesus shows up.**

If every week you
eat together,
pray together,
worship together,
and study the word together,
then you have faithfully structured the youth time for God to work.

Thank you for your effort and compassionate heart.
I'm a leader in the church because of leaders like you!

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